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01. 学園封鎖ゲーム

『/// DUAL SWORD LIBERATOR ///』

岩波零

Illustration 白井鋭利

MF文庫



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Dual Sword Liberator - Volume 01 Chapter 01-02

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Full Chapter



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Another Fake Full:

Starting about thirty years ago from 「April 1 the year when I was 15」 to 「March 31 the year when I was 18」, some people appeared who were capable of using abilities. They became known as 「Exceed」, and I, Yagumo Ryu, was one of them.

From April 1st of this year, I became a person with abilities right after I woke up from bed.

Now that I think about it, it was very strange. As soon as I opened my eyes, I became aware of my abilities. It was just like how a baby knows how to move his hands or feet. I don't know how I became able to understand how to activate my ability, .

Though I panicked about it for a moment, I quickly accepted my fate. The news on TV often broadcasted on Exceeds. Middle school students now learn about 「Exceed Ability」 as a mandatory course, which has now been added as a class.

The existence of Exceeds became universally known. Not to mention, for about two hours before I slept that night, I hoped that I might become an Exceed tomorrow.

According to the class we attended in middle school, around one hundred high school students will become Exceeds. Now that I think about it, I feel like that kind of luck is akin to winning a one hundred million yen lottery prize. Even though there are many Exceeds in the world, I didn't think I would become one. It's that kind of feeling.

After getting out of bed, I wanted to try my ability. I activated it, and my other self appeared. Whether it was appearance, height, or clothes everything was the same. It was like looking into a full-length mirror.

“.....Yo.”

“.....Ouh~”

There was a response from my greeting. Even the voice sounded the same. Standing next to someone who is the same, honestly makes me feel a little uncomfortable.

Whilst trying to endure the uncomfortable feeling, I tried to communicate without speaking.

“Ah— —testing, testing.”

“Oh, I can hear it in my head. Is this telepathy?”

The two mes seemed to feel better and laughed together. Using this ability would make it easy to cheat on tests.

After playing around with telepathy for about five minutes, I canceled and started to change my clothes. Now that I confirmed that me being an Exceed was not an illusion, I decided to go the nearest place that was holding the「Exceed Examination」.

The Exceed examination is held on the first of April throughout Japan for fifteen year olds. It's used to determine whether or not they have awakened to an ability. I don't know the complex theories behind it, but through the collection of a small amount of blood, they can immediately determine if one is

an Exceed or not.

The cost of having a free test was that everyone had to accept the examination. Unless it was for an important reason, if someone didn't check in before noon, then they would be placed on the wanted list of that country.

Although I think publicly demonstrating would be easier, I decided to follow the procedures. The result was positive. Coincidentally, April's fools is today. I don't know if my friends would believe me if I told them 「I have become an Exceed!」.

Because I became an Exceed, my parents were called here immediately to accept instructions from government personnel . For the next three years, I will be staying on government grounds. I will be attending the 「The City of God Academy」, which is directly managed by the government. Because having abilities carry risks, they must be under constant surveillance. If someone rejects studying at the City of God Academy and runs away instead, they will be wanted by the whole country. People could abuse their powers for malicious reasons, if they really wanted to. Therefore, by obtaining this incredible power, you can expect not to live a normal life.

The school's name is 「City of God」, its name was taken from the location where the construction took place. It's rumored that previously, the school's perimeter was surrounded in uncultivated fields and hills. It took several years to build this school for Exceeds to study in. It looks like it took a considerable amount of effort.

I left home on the morning of April second. I sat in a car, owned by the government , used specifically for the purpose of moving Exceeds. It traveled along a bumpy road until finally arriving at the City of God. When I moved in, I had not been arrested yet or otherwise been treated inhumanely. However, life could not have been considered very carefree. We got all sorts of rewards in return for cooperating in the simple tests that were occasionally held.

During the entrance ceremony on April tenth, I was told to sit next to Yuki. It must have been fate. We then had this conversation:

“I heard that each year there's only around one hundred people who could become Exceeds in high school. I wouldn't have thought I would be one of them.

It feels like I've won the lottery without even buying a ticket. Lucky——”

Yuki showed a carefree smile while saying this. She was dressed in a brand new gray suit jacket, paired with a cream colored sweater wrapped around her upper body. Around her neck, she wore a ribbon-like tie. Her whole body emitted a very mature charm. Once again, I realized that my living environment had already changed.

“Oh, yeah, Yagumo. Did you read the booklet that they gave us when we got here? It says that outside of school hours, we can read as much manga as we want, play as much as we want, and eat as many snacks as we want.”

“Ah. You mean the line that says 「As long as it's something you want, even if it's within the Earth, we will dig it out for you」. I feel like that's a little too good to be true.”

“Also, when we're outside, there are SP-driven luxury coach cars to drive us. It's almost like VIP treatment isn't it.”

“Well, the driver is actually sent to monitor us. Also, this school is in a completely remote area with no neighborhoods around. If we don't have a car to drive us, we wouldn't even have a way home.”

“Even if it is like that, I bet ordinary people wouldn't even be able to ride a luxury coach car in their lifetime.”

“I guess so. However, there's been some weddings lately where the couples were sent in luxury coach cars.”

“Oh, I see~ Yagumo's really familiar with this kind of thing. Could you be married?”

Cough cough

“Now that I think about it, luxury cars are expensive to rent aren’t they.”

“It should be a couple tens of thousands of yen per hour.....Now that I think about it, these benefits are only available to us until graduation. I’m going to enjoy my life here.”

This put us into high spirits. During the first month after we were admitted, life was very comfortable.

For example, the school sometimes invited twenty different manufacturers of salty potato chips, and held a tasting assembly (we couldn't what the difference was at all).

Sometimes, they would prepare a bathtub filled with ten thousand yen bills for us to take a picture like a millionaire (the money was taken back after).

I came to know the benefits of being friends with Yuki, who scheduled a trip to Egypt during Golden Week. She used the influence of the pyramids to enhance the persuasiveness of her request (because near the end, there wasn't much to say).

Obviously, if I asked for a one hundred karat diamond, it wouldn't be approved, However, in a situation like this where every request was answered, there wouldn't be anyone who would use their powers for evil.

Ahh, if you lived in a place like this for three years, you would definitely become someone super useless or something along those lines. April twenty-eighth would later become the day I would never forget.

[illegible]

The day that we were sealed in, we had no knowledge of what was going on. On that morning at eight o'clock, the whole school was summoned to the gym for an assembly.

It was on a day with warm weather that made people drowsy. The doors were closed, and you could hear the birds chirping outside. None of the approximately three hundred students were late. They were lined up in the gym. Before the assembly started, the students were talking—

When I first looked up, the scene was very normal. However, I felt uneasy. It was because in the big stadium, not even one teacher was around. It wasn't just the teachers. Even the Exceeds who worked for the government, that lived nearby, and who were here to monitor us were also suddenly gone.

.....This kind of thing has never happened before.....

Although it felt a little uneasy, I didn't think too much about it. It could be that they just needed to do something without letting us students know and left us for a little while.

Right after I accepted the explanation I came up with, the third-year student council secretary, Kirihara Syuji came out from the side of the stage. He alone, stood in front of the microphone. It seemed like the assembly was finally going to begin.

——But after Kirihara slowly flipped the microphone switch, he suddenly gave all the students this order:

“Attention everyone! You are not to take one step out of the City of God Academy's dormitories without my permission!”

“——!?”

When I finally understood what was happening, it was already too late. Because Kirihara possessed the ability, no one would be able to go against his orders.

So to this day, even if I wanted to create a copy of myself using to escape, it wouldn't work.

What's more is that all the students in the same year as me don't know how serious the situation was. Yuki, who stood beside me asked, “What activity is this? Is it a belated welcome to the 1st-years?”

She began asking those types of carefree questions.

“.....Hey, Yuki. Don't you think it's strange that there's no teacher in this whole gym.”

“Huh?——You're right. I didn't notice at all. Are the teachers in a meeting?”

Yuki agreed with me and tilted her head. I stood next to her, feeling uneasy.

Why would Kiri-hara issue an order like this——

As I was wondering about the suspicious situation, the seniors of the Student Council came out from the side and approached the microphone.

“The order that Kiri-hara just issued was not just his idea. It was the intention of all third-years. Suddenly doing something like this must have confused all you first and second years, so let us explain the rules of the game we’re about to play.”

After hearing those words, the tension in the gym clearly eased up. What was I suspicious about. Of course, it’s just an activity.

“As you all know, we third years will be losing our abilities by March of next year. So until then, we would like to have a little more fun with our irregular lives here. So we would like to ask the first and second years students to join this game that we made up. The game is called 「School Lockdown」. Before this game ends, no one is allowed step off campus. Games will last until March of next year.

Suddenly, the stadium began to fill with noise again. I can’t leave the school? And it lasts until March of next year?

“After yesterday, the easy-going school life we had ended. All future requests will be ignored, and items unrelated to school will not be given. ——Oh, lessons will be held as usual. Having said that, because school personnel have been forcibly ejected, class will be taught by video. If someone boycotts the classes or disturbs the school environment, he will be immediately punished. Make sure to take note of this.”

——We’re forced to stay on school campus, but we could also get punished? Will this kind of thing be allowed?

....No, it has been allowed. The Student Council president is hailed as the strongest in history with an S-Class ability (Exceed), having a very powerful force. As long as he wanted it, ruling over all students would be simply effortless.

“Then, I’ll tell you the method of retrieving your former steady life. There’s only one way, and that’s to pass the Academy Blockade game. Passing is very simple, it’s 「Using your abilities to defeat the 5 Dominators: Student Council

President, Discipline Chairman, Health Chairman, Beautification Chairman and Librarian Chairman]. This is nothing more than setting up our game's BOSS"

The kind smiling Student Council President calmly proposed the clearance condition that was impossible to achieve. Not because of anything else, but this year's Third Years were known for consisting of many well-known militants with special abilities. And as the people nominated from these several, the leaders were all outstanding, even out of those who had S-Class and A-Class (Exceed) abilities.

On the other hand, among the First Year and Second Year students, there were no special ability users of S-Class. There were only a handful of A-Class users in Second Year. The majority of us only had B-Class and C-Class special abilities(Yuki and I are both C-Class).

Therefore, the conditions for clearing this game that he made were basically impossible. We didn't even know if we could defeat a single one of the five leaders before the deadline— —. After calmly analyzing it, I could not help but bite my lip.

[illegible]

Within the first week of the game, the first-year and second-year students were divided into two factions. One called the 「Braves」 and the other the 「Observers」.

The Braves, as the name suggested, are the students who wanted to defeat the Dominators. On the other hand, the Observers, which made up most of the students, wanted to watch the Braves. Basically, the 「Braves」 are the 「foolhardy guys」 and the 「Observers」 are the 「ones with no willpower」.

During the week, there were numerous times when the Observers were called 「cowards」 and when the Braves were called 「foolish」 in this kind of situation. I felt these things began the internal strife among us.

By the way, I'm obviously on the Observer's side. However, because I have been careful about my attitude toward the Braves, I have not received any criticism on the surface yet.

But then again, do the Braves really have the right to criticize the Observers? A

week has already passed, but the Brave haven't made any progress. Because they know the way they are right now, they can't challenge the Dominators.

For example, take the books chairman. If you wanted to challenge him, it's necessary to beat at least a few of the third-year members of the books commission.

When the game at the academy began, all committee compositions were updated. All first-year and second-year students were removed from the committees. At the same time, to gather more members, the festival committee and the electoral affairs commission were abolished. The members were split between the books commission and the health committee.

Now all committee chairs are held by third-year students. Although I'm not clear on how to challenge them and the amount of people allowed to fight, the journey would sure be tough because most third-years had B-rank and above Exceeds.

Also, although I considered attacking Kirihara in order to force him to lift the , he was always surrounded by several different S-class and A-class Exceeds. So, compared to beating the game, overcoming his powerful protection seemed even harder.

Using one phrase to summarize the current situation: it would be helpless. We're nothing but caged birds.

Because of the very limited amount of freedom we had, the boys were very thirsty for porn.

.....No, although it sounds funny, it's a very serious problem. The house arrest alone made everyone nervous, so something like porn that heals is something that can't be overlooked.

At the beginning of the game, all our cell phones were taken away. Also, anything related to computers were all cleared. All TV channels were blocked from receiving signals. Basically, all the methods that we could have used to watch porn were severed.

I used desperate measures. I got in a good relationship with Yuki to relieve my endless depressed mood. She's like a cute pet. Just looking at her makes you

happy.

“— —Hey, Yagumo, have you heard that there’s a sacred sword hidden somewhere in this school?”

From the morning of May 5th, it started pouring. When I was gloomily eating my breakfast in the cafeteria, a gigantic body wearing a cream-colored sweater suddenly appeared in front of me— —oh nevermind, it’s Yuki holding a tray.

“A sacred sword? Nope, never heard of it. Is it something like the seven great mysteries?”

“Nope. Actually, this one has a lot of credibility to it. Apparently, a couple years ago, one of the students at City of God had the ability to create powerful equipment. However, the sacred sword was too powerful, and if someone used it for evil, it could lead to the end of the world. Afraid that someone would use it for evil, he used some kind of technique to seal it away somewhere in the academy.”

“Something like a sacred sword that could destroy the world.....that’s the first time I’ve heard of it.”

“I only heard it from Saki yesterday, but if it really does exist, don’t you think it’s amazing? If we found it, we could possibly be able to compete with the five dominators.”

Yuki’s eyes were sparkling as she leaned forward and said that. Because that position made her breasts stand out even more, I didn’t know where to look.

“First of all, let’s start by searching all the possible places where the sword could have been sealed away. Yagumo, should we do it together? You see, since you have , wouldn’t it be easy for you get inside the room even if it’s locked?”

“Ah, um. If we’re just looking for something, I’ll come too. There’s nothing to do at the dorms anyways.”

Since it’s golden week, there’s no class so there was nothing much to do. Even back at the room, the only things I could do was read the manga I was already tired of reading and play the games, which were scattered across the floor that I was already tired of playing.

Although midterms were coming up, it was only a formality. Even if someone fails, there probably won't be anyone who said anything.

Also, by giving the sacred sword to the Braves faction, the reputation of the Observers will improve. In turn, making the relationship between the two factions better.

"That's great~but the rumors have not been confirmed yet, so it's not good for people to get their hopes up too high. Therefore, we should only select a few people to investigate. So, it's only going to be me, Saki, and Yagumo."

"Really. Since I have the opportunity to be one of the selected three, I'm very honored."

Even though the only reason I was selected is because can unlock doors.

After breakfast, under the thick cloudy sky, each of us held an umbrella and walked towards the school building. Even though we can't watch the weather forecast, it looked like it was still going to rain for a while.

I closed my umbrella at the entrance and shook it. While doing so, I asked a question:

"Anyways, do you have any idea where the sacred sword is sealed?"

"Nope, not at all."

Minase Saki said as she shrugged, shook her blonde hair, and bit her lower lip.

"Also, there's no way to guarantee it'll be indoors. Anyway, we have to search every corner of each building first. I think we should start from the east side of the campus. What do you guys think?"

"Sure, why not."

I said that while putting my umbrella into the umbrella stand.

The City of God's academy had school buildings on the east and west sides, which are connected by a corridor. The west side is used for the usual lessons, while the east side is for things like music lessons and science experiments.

We went forward together. We started by searching the first floor of the east building. If we found somewhere that the sacred sword could be sealed in, I'll

use to unlock the door so that we can search together.

.....Although, it's easy to say 「the room that the sacred sword could be sealed」 but what is the room actually like?

“Ah! This room's glass is frosted, and you can't see inside? The sword might be inside.”

Minase said as she stopped at the sign that read 「Science Preparation Room」 and pointed at the small window on the door.

“Hey, Saki. This room is very suspicious isn't it? Aren't the pronunciations of 「sacred sword」 and 「bio」 very similar?”

This time, it was Yuki who stood at the doorway of the room that stated her reasoning.

Hm. Seems like there's quite a lot of rooms that the sacred sword could be sealed in.

Just as I was sighing, Minase, who stood next to me, had her skirt suddenly fall down.

Her white panties suddenly appeared before my eyes. It was the kind that had a pink-colored butterfly knot with lotus leaves on the edges.

“——Kyaaaaaaah!!”

When Minase quickly lifted up her skirt, I got a hard slap on my left cheek.

“Pervert!! Sex Maniac!! You're the worst!!”

“No, it's not!! It wasn't me earlier——”

However, her face was full of tears, flowing out of her eyes at lightning speed. I didn't even get a chance to defend myself.

.....Minase probably thought as I was standing next to her, I purposely pulled her skirt down. During this moment, I felt like there's no way to survive in this world. Farewell, the me that only lasted until yesterday. Starting today, I have to endure the name of 「Pervert」 or will it be 「Sex Maniac」.

I nervously looked towards the side, and of course, Yuki looked at me with suspicion as well.

“.....Hey, Yagumo? Let me just make sure, but you don’t pull down.....other people’s skirts, right?”

“Of course not! It must be a trap! Someone must have set me up! Besides, pulling down your classmate’s skirt is a stupid move! Why not just lift it up instead!”

“.....Hm, I think lifting up skirts isn’t a normal thought either, is it?”

“.....Then, sorry. I was too excited and I started saying things——”

Just as I was explaining myself, I saw a shadow behind a pillar from afar.

——Could this person also want to pull down Yuki’s skirt!?

After I noticed the mysterious person, I immediately went towards the lower body of Yuki and buried my face in her sweater. I used my hands and pressed firmly on Yuki’s skirt.

“Huh!? Wait, wait a second, Yagumo what are you doing!?”

Feeling like she was being harassed by a pervert, Yuki let out a high-pitched scream. In order to protect her skirt, I touched her butt. If I get sued for this, I have no chance of winning.

During the moment where I couldn’t help but think about my life in prison, the skirt suddenly got heavier. It felt like I was lifting an iron plate.

“Yuki! Slowly squat down! That way, the skirt shouldn’t fall!”

“I-I understand.”

While Yuki slowly squatted down, she held her skirt with both hands. But honestly, I could completely see her pink panties from my view. However, I think the ends are more important than the means.

Yuki knelt down in the hallway. We succeeded in preventing the skirt from falling. At least the Exceed on the other side didn’t see anything.

“Hey, Samejima. Come out.”

I shouted towards our classmate, Samejima Gota, who was hiding in the shadows leaning against the pillar.

“That was your earlier wasn’t it? If I remember correctly, your ability can

increase the weight of an object within a ten-meter radius by up to fifty kilograms, right? By only increasing the weight of the skirts, the skirts fell by themselves. That's a really dirty way of using it.

I guess he wasn't able to disprove my deduction. A large blue-haired man came out slowly from there.

Samejima looks like a bad boy and scary on the outside, but he's actually very timid. He's the kind of guy who will spend his breaks alone, playing the string pattern game by himself. However, this only frightened people even more, and no one in the class would talk to him.

“.....”

It looks like changing Samejima's perception is impossible. This guy probably has a sadistic nature. Obtaining a powerful ability made him want to experiment on weaker people. I don't understand.

“I get it, Samejima. First take a hundred steps back, I'll let you beat me up . However, can you let go of Yuki?”

“No, Yagumo——”

“If you just want to bully someone weak, then I alone am enough, right?”

“No can do. If I let her go, then she'll tell her friends to come.”

After cruelly rejecting my request, Samejima came in front of me and slowly raised his thick right foot.

“Wait a minute, Samejima. If you start attacking me, then there's no going back. I'll have to fight back.”

While I said it, I activated . Ryuji appeared behind Samejima, sandwiching Samejima in the middle.

——However, when Ryuji appeared, it was affected by making it completely immobile.

“I already knew what you were trying to do. You were trying to put the copy of yourself behind me, and when I wasn't looking, attack me right? It's such a pity. No matter where you place your copy, it will automatically be targeted by my gravity. Also, the range that can be used is only three meters, so there's no way

that you could get out of the range of my abilities. Come on, if you can counter attack in the embarrassing state you're in right now, then go ahead and try."

".....There's obviously a way to fight back because your is not without its flaws."

"Flaws?.....that's right, my abilities only work within a ten-meter range. If you use things that fly from a distance—like a shot bullet, for example, then I would have no way to fight back. However, isn't that kind of weapon banned on school grounds? That's to say, there's no way I can lose!!"

Samejima yelled as he aimed his right foot to step down on my head.

The moment he stepped on me, I canceled and we combined back. The Ryuichi that was targeted by Samejima disappeared in a nick of time.

".....I see. Even within the range of , you have a way to escape."

Samejima was little surprised and quickly turned towards me.

"But Yagumo. The only reason you were able to escape my attack earlier was because I moved very slowly, right? If I stepped down on you earlier at full speed, you couldn't have dodged it. If you don't use to create a copy first, then there's no way that you can dodge.

".....Maybe."

"Also, you can't attack from a long distance. How are you going to defeat me by just escaping, huh!?"

Just as Samejima was speaking, a shoe hit the back of his head. Yuki tried her best to take off her shoes and used the resistive force of to throw it at him.

Unfortunately, it didn't do much damage to Samejima. What's worse is we made him mad.

".....I guess I really need to teach Nanami a lesson....."

Samejima's face became worse. He looked like a carnivorous animal that was about to pounce on his prey.

"Yagumo, I still have things to do later. Can you quickly let me crush you."

"You better get all these pretentious lines out now because you're definitely

going to lose.

“Huh? What are you talking about? Even if one of you do manage to get out, wouldn't it still be hard to move within my ? And you still think you're going to beat me?”

“Haha, do I still need to explain myself. I already prepared to fight back.—— Look behind you!!”

“What did you say!?”

Samejima took a look back, but there was nothing. Obviously. I said that I was prepared to fight back, but that was only to get him to turn his back to me.

“.....What, it was only a bluff. You startled me.”

I took advantage of when the relieved Samejima turned his back at me. I activated again. This time, I put Ryuji on top of him.

“——What!?”

As Samejima let a surprised cry, Ryuji's right foot kicked him in the head violently. Because of the effect of , Ryuji weighed twice as much as he usually did. Imagine the power of the kick.

Samejima probably thought that could only be used on the ground within a three meter radius, but it can actually be used in a spherical radius of three meters. In other words, I just created a copy of myself above my opponent's head and just simply started to attack.

When my kick hit him, Samejima fainted. Because of that the effect of disappeared, and my body is relaxed again.

After cancelling , I took a deep breath. I picked up Yuki's shoe on the ground and gave it to her.

“——Thank you, Yagumo. Also, thanks for protecting me earlier.”

Yuki unsteadily got up and thanked me after she was freed from the gravity.

“You're welcome. Also, any suspicion towards me should be cleared. If we could have quickly cleared the misunderstanding with Minase, it would have been better. It would be better if no one knew of what he did here..”

“Huh?.....Oh, oh. I get it.”

“Then, thank you. Let’s take this guy away.”

After requesting his reputation to be returned, we decided to move his unconscious body in one go. — —However, his body was too heavy, so we couldn’t lift it up.

“Well, it seems like our only choice here is to go and borrow a trolley.”

“.....Um, Yagumo. Could it be that you want to send Samejima to the health center?”

Yuki asked the question completely confused. I nodded my head.

“The attack earlier had a big impact. We can’t just leave him here. What if something happens to him.”

“.....Um, Yagumo. This is just a question, so don’t get mad at me.”

“Hm? What?”

“Didn’t Samejima try to hurt us earlier? How can you help him considering what he did to us?”

“.....Hm, probably because he can be considered both the perpetrator and the victim? Think about it, didn’t the third-year’s limit our freedom as well? Considering the situation, wanting to commit some minor crimes is understandable.”

“Y-you can understand?”

“Oh, no, I obviously wouldn’t really do it.....but if I took one wrong step, I might have done what Samejima did.”

I was only taking the side of justice. We can’t just easily tell if Samejima was the good guy or the bad guy here. In this world, people aren’t that black or white but gray, and these people account for the overwhelming majority.

Moreover, Samejima could have used for something a lot more sinister, but this time, it was only to pull down a girl’s skirt. That’s because this guy has always been a sadist. Also, I want to believe that through this event, he could possibly re-emerge as a new person.

“Besides, we have nowhere to hide, right? If everyone at school found out about the bad things he did, and even if Samejima couldn’t stay at this school anymore, there would be no way for him to transfer or skip class. Thinking about it this way, I have a lot of sympathy for Samejima. I don’t know if Minase will agree, since this is only my wishful thinking.”

I said this while showing a smile, so we could forget about it. However, Yuki had a serious expression. She was treasuring the shoe I returned to her earlier, tightly in her arms.

“That’s not true. I think Yagumo was amazing. If I was in Yagumo’s shoes, there would have been no way that I could have been so considerate and selfless toward others. Also, Yagumo had plenty of chances to beat Samejima, but you didn’t. You kept on trying to persuade him.”

“In the end, there was no way to change his mindset. I had to use violence.”

I said that whilst scratching my head and feeling a little embarrassed. Yuki looked like she made some sort of decision. She put on her shoes and quickly touched Samejima’s body.

“I’ll help move Samejima to the health center. If I use to create a weak resistive force between Yagumo and Samejima, then he would be easier to carry right?”

“That helps a lot. Otherwise, taking this guy to the health center would take a lot of effort.”

“.....But. If I use , then I would have to touch Yagumo’s body.”

“Hm? Oh, I understand. Please feel free.”

“.....”

Yuki put her head down, looking like she didn’t even want to touch me. She stretched out her right hand many times, but immediately pulled it back each time.”

“.....Why do I always feel a little embarrassed when I try to do it?”

“Hey, why? You didn’t mind when you touched Samejima’s body, right?”

“That’s true.....but the situation with Yagumo is different from Samejima’s.”

“What do you mean!? You can touch Samejima, but you can’t touch me!?”

“T-that’s not what I meant!! It’s more like I want to enjoy feeling you all over!”

“Feeling all of me!? That’s just as bad!? Is it because you’re still mad that I accidentally touched your butt while I was pressing your skirt down earlier!?”

“— — Ah!! That’s right!! When you were touching me, you took the opportunity to feel my butt up as much as you could!!”

“Can you not say something so misleading!? It was completely unavoidable!!”

“.....Ah, I’ll admit that you protected me.. For that, I am grateful.”

“Ah, um, no problem.”

Although having said that, I already saw the great scenery under her skirt while protecting her.

“Also, after hearing what Yagumo said, I came to realise something. Touching the opposite sex’s body because of unavoidable circumstances is something that happens often in everyday life.”

“Huh?.....Ah, yes. Even though using 「often」 to express the frequency is a little too much.....”

“So, I’m going to start touching.”

“Being so straightforward about it feels a little weird..”

“Then, where is a good place to touch~”

“Wait a minute! Since it’s just to activate , isn’t it the same no matter where!?”

“That’s not true. The place to touch for is very specific, so I have to touch all kinds of different places for it to work.”

“Didn’t you just casually touch Samejima earlier!? Also, can you not wiggle your fingers like that while saying you want to touch all kinds of different places!? I feel like my v card is at stake!!”

“There’s no problem. It’s only a little scary at the start.”

“That makes you sound like a criminal!!”

“Oh, also. I’m going to start calling Yagumo 「Ryu」 now. Please take care of me.”

“Hm? Why did you pick this time to——”

“An opening!!”

Yuki yelled as she quickly put both of her hands under my armpits.

“Ha, success!”

“W-wait a minute! It tickles! Stop! Save me!”

“How is it, Ryu? You’re going to admit defeat right!”

While Yuki was tickling me, she happily shouted my name. This crossed the line of unpreventable. This is obviously asking for trouble.

[illegible]

For two months after that event, Yuki and I did all sorts of things together. Sometimes she begged me to teach her, and in return, I got biscuits. Occasionally, we even went to look for the sacred sword, but in the end, we found nothing.

While I was looking at the swaying water, reflecting the moon, I started to reminisce about all the things that had happened. These unexpected feelings aren't really bad things; it's that just I've felt like it was a little unbelievable. Also, if it weren't for the house arrest, I wouldn't have been able to get so close to Yuki. I also wouldn't have gotten the chance to be able to see her in a swimsuit.

.....Well, although I saw something way better than Yuki's bikini.....

From the time when I saw her boobs till now, only thirty minutes had elapsed. I had already changed into my uniform, but Yuki, who was still in the locker room, didn't seem like she wanted to come out.

“.....Hey, Yuki. Wouldn't it be bad if we don't go back to the dormitory soon?”

Although we can't see each other, I had made up my mind to call her out. After a while, the girl's locker room's door opened just a crack. From there, I could see Yuki's face.

However, when our eyes met, she looked completely ashamed and

immediately shrunk back in.

.....What's a good way to comfort her in this situation.....

".....I'll start with the good part. I don't feel shy at all."

A brave voice said from the inside, while I was silently standing outside the gray door.

It's rare to hear someone who would say such an obvious lie. I know because when I saw her eyes earlier, they were full of tears.

"I'm not lying. Also, even if I felt a little ashamed about having my boobs seen, I saw Ryu's uncovered chest, which means we're even, right?"

"....."

What should I do. I don't understand what Yuki is saying at all.

However, I couldn't just ignore her. I guess I'll just go along with her.

"What you said seems pretty reasonable. Even though we're at the swimming pool, having young men show their bare chests isn't right, but I really was a little too bold. I didn't only let you see my right nipple, but also the left one. I feel like I'll die from shame."

"——Hey, Ryu."

"Hm? What's up?"

"Can you just shut up?"

"....."

It seemed like I angered her. I just wanted to go along with what she was saying, how could this happen.

"And anyways, why is seeing the left nipple more shameful than seeing the right one! What kind of logic is that! Both the right and the left are the same! They're both nipples! They're equal!"

"Huh? Why did I just get scolded? Is it because I treated the right and left nipples differently?"

"That's right. Give me an apology for not treating both nipples equally."

“Hey— —but think about it. Don’t people have a dominant hand? Isn’t the right hand more important than the left hand for right-handed people?”

“Even if that’s the case, it only applies to hands. Have you ever heard of something like that for nipples?”

“Are you sure? It even applies to the eyes and feet. It’s just that probably no one thought about it. Maybe it applies to nipples as well? For example, the one that’s closer to the heart gets the heart rate up faster or something of the sort. — —Oh yeah, how about starting from now we grope each others’ nipples to see which one is the dominant nipple?”

“Who would say such things!! This kind of invitation of yours already counts as harassment!! Also, starting from earlier, I’ve already said the word nipple too many times!!”

Yuki started to complain.

I didn’t know if it was because of her yell earlier, but Yuki finally came out of the locker room, wearing clothes, of course.

“.....Um, uh. Well, it’s already pretty late. Do you want to go back?”

“.....Yeah.”

Yuki nodded her head to my response, so we started preparing to go back to the dorms.

However, when we were jumping over the fence of the swimming pool, Yuki refused to hold my hand while using . It seemed like she was too shy to hold hands. It looks like the exposure earlier dealt a heavy blow to her.

So, I could only use . I just used the simple method of putting Ryuji on the other side of the fence and making the Ryuichi on this side disappear.

After leaving the pool, we didn’t talk at all while walking down the wide path from the campus to the dorms. It was a super awkward atmosphere.

However, I can understand why Yuki couldn’t go back to being her usual self. We’re both high schoolers, and she showed something so indecent in front of someone else. That’s why I looked up at the clouds covering the full moon, and silently walked towards the dorms ahead.

.....Well, time will make everything go back to normal. I guess I'll comfort Yuki tomorrow. I think up this plan while gazing at the faraway gate.

But at this moment, a flashlight, which came from the shadows in front of the school building, shone on us.

"Hey, you two!! What are you doing here!!"

From the silent campus, a male voice shouted. I was so shocked that I almost dropped my swimming bag.

The light was dazzling. For a moment, I couldn't identify the person's voice..... However, it could only be the disciplinary committee patrolling.

I felt ashamed of our failure. I was so focused on thinking about how to fix my relationship with Yuki, I completely forgot that we were trying to sneak back into the dorms.

"Ryu, run!"

As she said this, Yuki quickly grabbed my hand and ran as fast as she could towards the swimming pool. Even though my feet weren't listening to me, I still hurried to catch up to her.

But at the next moment, I saw a gigantic unknown object, that was five meters tall, on the edge my of vision.

When I looked closely, it turned out to be the disciplinary members we saw earlier. Starting from the right shoulder, the right arm started to abnormally become bigger. It must have been the use of an ability.

His right hand grew like this. His palm was about the size of a bicycle and it started extending to us at an incredible speed. I pushed Yuki aside to use myself as bait. I prepared to face off against the powerful arm heading towards at us.

But because I never planned a counterattack against the giant hand, I directly collided with it. The moment when I was grabbed, I felt a huge shock throughout my body.

After a moment of dizziness, I noted that all five fingers were firmly wrapped around my back and legs. His grip, constricted my chest, making it extremely difficult to breath.

I was grabbed by a hand with inhuman strength, and I became unable to get to the member of the discipline committee's side. If this went on, wouldn't I become an ingredient for a hot pot and be eaten?

——Don't let it end like this!!

Unwillingly, I activated , I summoned Ryuji then I deactivated the Ryuichi captured by the discipline committee member. I had finally gotten away!

Finally restoring my original form, I swiftly changed directions and put some distance between the member of the disciplinary committee and me. If I repeatedly used , hopefully it would confuse him enough, for me to escape!

However, I looked back while running away. I noticed that the disciplinary committee member had no intention of chasing me. He just restored his right hand back to normal, and stood there eerily, looking as if he had given up on his duty.

——What's happening? Why isn't he making his hand big again? It couldn't be that he hadn't noticed that I escaped from his hand, right?

Just when I was starting to feel suspicious, I turned back to look at him again. His entire body began to grow at an amazing speed. Within a second, he had swollen to such a size that he looked like a human balloon, transforming into a giant that was several tens of meters tall.

His height was almost equal to that of the school buildings nearby, almost as if a four story tall building was built before my eyes. Although I had seen quite a few abilities within the last three months, I could confidently say that this ability has had the greatest impact.

—— It wasn't until now that I realized which member of the discipline committee that I had met. Considering the ability he has, it should be Kito Kyosuke, a senior who was B ranked. According to what I remember, his ability should be called . I had heard that he could transform into a giant tens of meters tall, but I didn't expect for him to be able to enlarge that part of himself too.

Kito bent his body forward to a running position and charged at me. His steps were incredibly large, easily as large as a house. Every time his feet touched the ground, the surrounding ground would rumble.

—— How am I supposed to hide when I'm playing hide and seek with someone like this!!

“Yuki! Go hide in the dormitory! He shouldn't be able to catch up to you there in his current form!”

I quickly changed directions, and randomly found a classroom's window, preparing to break in.

However, in an instant, a giant shadow eclipsed me, and the darkness became even darker. The speed of Kito's Shadow was only one step ahead of Kito.

Small typhoons sprung up nearby, sending small particles of sand into my face and hands. It was difficult to even open my eyes.

In the middle of this chaotic situation, a gigantic arm came down from the sky
——

“Ryu! Catch!”

I heard this unexpected cry, I instinctively turned towards the direction of Yuki and reached out with my right hand. After grabbing her hand, our bodies immediately flew high into the sky. Yuki activated her , creating a strong repulsive force towards the ground.

We used this method to jump to the second floor's balcony of the school dormitory. Next, I would just need to activate to open the door from the inside
——

However, I sensed danger. I immediately stopped my activation, turned to Yuki, and quickly pushed her down.

“R-Ryu, what are you doing?”

The sudden action made Yuki flinch, but after seeing the giant's wrist above us, I shouldn't have to explain myself anymore.

Kato's high speed punch very easily broke through the two-layered glass window. Following a sharp sound, clear fragments of glass flew all over the place. Luckily, most of the broken glass had scattered inside the classroom, so Yuki and I had not suffered any major injuries.

“—— Yuki, could you use your ?”

Without waiting for her answer, I grabbed Yuki's right hand and used it to touch Kato's gigantic wrist. Yuki, in her fright, hadn't opened her eyes. Even I thought that doing this was a bit tough, but we absolutely couldn't miss this chance.

Sure enough, Kato quickly pulled his hand from the broken window. Honestly, Yuki didn't even have the time to activate her — —

Yuki answered me with a smile. Starting from that moment, we were prepared to use in order to retaliate against Kato.

"Um, could you to use your on the unbroken windows?"

"Okay~"

Yuki understood what I planned to do just like that. While she straightened out the upper half of her body, she used right hand to touch the nearest window.

I got up at the same time, making use of the broken window to get into the classroom.

"— —Hah, hah!!"

With an imposing roar, I broke the window that Yuki had touched. Then, the shattered fragments of the broken window, using 's effect, flew towards Kito's right hand.

"Ahhhhhhh!!"

The transparent shards of glass sunk into Kito's arm just like I planned. A rugged moaning sound echoed through the school.

"Yuki! Take this chance to run away!"

"Ok!"

Yuki answered me with renewed vigor, then slipped into the pitch-black classroom.

"S-stop! — — dammit, how could I allow you to escape!"

Kato moaned, probably from the pain from his right wrist. He's hesitating to keep attacking us for now.

Taking advantage of this opportunity, we sped through the hallway and

headed towards the stairs without a shred of hesitation. When I looked back, it seemed that Kato stopped trying to catch us.

“It think we might have finally escaped!”

Yuki raised her voice and said that when we finally reached the stairs. Just as she was about to go down to the first floor, I grabbed her sleeve. My firm grip stopped her.

“Wait up, Yuki. We should go up first.”

“Huh? Why? Aren’t we going to escape from the main door?”

“Think about it, Kato still hasn’t caught up, maybe he’s planning to ambush us at the exit. Also, since you just yelled so loudly. It could have attracted quite a few disciplinary committee members here.”

“—— So it’s like this. If we went to the gate, it’s very likely we could encounter members of the disciplinary committee.”

“That’s right, so, we want to go towards the opposite direction. We should run upstairs to observe the situation a little.”

“Ok.”

Yuki nodded her head. While she was going up the stairs, she paid attention to not make too much noise.

We stopped at the platform that was between the third and fourth floors, crouching down and wiping off the dust that had stuck to our bodies. We carefully listened for any sounds coming from the lower floors. The school was silent. This meant that reinforcements hadn’t arrived yet.

“..... But, still I was really scared.”

Yuki whispered as she was kneeling on the ground and looking scared.

“Elena specially reminded me that the discipline committee does patrol every direction. I totally forgot about it”

Yuki suddenly mentioned our classmate Kujyo Elena’s name.

“Hm? Could you have gotten all that information about the disciplinary committee from Kujyo?”

“Mhm. Elena sneaks into the school from time to time, so she investigated the disciplinary committee a little.”

“Huh? She sneaks into the school in the middle of the night? Could it be that Kujiyo is looking for the sacred sword?”

“Hm—she told me she was doing something in the science classroom, but she didn’t tell me the details.”

“So it’s like this, it’s true that secrecy is kind of like Kujiyo’s style.However in the science classroom, she should have a goal other than the sacred sword.”

Being in the science classroom late at night, could it be that she’s making things like bombs?When thought of this unrealistic idea, I suddenly realized that this person could definitely do it. I could not help but panic.

Thinking of Kujiyo’s cold look, I couldn’t help but force a wry smile.

Kujiyo is a First Year with a very rare B class ability. She’s a beautiful girl with long silver hair, and red pupils, but her personality is very harsh so it’s very hard to get close to her. Even during the summer, she would wear the long-sleeved uniform. Because of this, she is called 「Platina Queen」by some of the male students, and her many fanatic fans that support her.

“Ha..... . How long will these kinds of days continue.”

Yuki whispered appearing listless and nervous while holding her breath. Her body was already small, so doing this made her look like a little kid. Although it strongly stimulated my desire to protect her, I couldn’t encourage her when I’m a mere C class.

“....We have to endure all this till the third years lose their abilities in April next year. It’s already been two months since this game began, but I haven’t seen a single person try to fight a dominator, yet.”.....

“Um, yesterday, there were a few B class second year students who went to challenge the library chairman, but I heard that their attacks didn’t even scratch him.”

“Hmm..... they’re really desperate, huh....”

Librarian chairman Igarashi Alice is A ranked. If we can’t even defeat her, then

wanting to defeat someone with a S class ability would be insane.

“.....Um, Ryu, I wanted to ask you this a long time ago, but why don't you ever go challenge the dominators?”

Yuki timidly asked this as she changed from hugging her knees to leaning against the wall. If i wanted to, it wouldn't take much to see her panties. I laughed self-deprecatingly.

“I don't fight enemies that I don't have the capability to beat. Even a B class can't beat them, so there's no way a C class like me could.”

“But, didn't Ryu easily defeat the C class Samejima earlier? It looks like in the ranks of the C classes, you would be one of the top. If you want to defeat people with higher ranks, it isn't impossible.”

Yuki spoke while changing to a crawling position on the floor, approaching me with a serious expression. Being given strange expectations, made me feel ashamed.

“That was just because works well against . I'm not very high ranked within the C rankers.”

“But.....”

“Well, we're going to have to end this conversation. We need to think about to escape from here first.”

I found a random reason for Yuki to stop pursuing these questions, then I gathered my concentration on listening to movements downstairs. It was just as quiet and still.

We already stayed here for about twenty minutes. We should be able to start moving now.

“Okay, Yuki, we should go back to the dorm.”

“——Huh? We're going to go back just like that?”

I don't know why Yuki looked so surprise while asking me that.

“B-but, the discipline committee could still be patrolling, so wouldn't it be dangerous? I think we should stay here a little longer.”

“Really?”

“I’m sure it’s better that way. It’s definitely better.”

Yuki clasped her hands and nodded with a sparkle in her eyes

“..... Hey, why do you look so happy?”

“I-I’m not happy.”

“Seriously? We can’t keep playing hide and seek.”

“I-I obviously know that. ah~ being caught by the disciplinary committee members is so scary~”

“Why are you being so dramatic?”

“I’m not being dramatic at all~ but I was thinking that it would be better to stay here until daylight~ obviously, Ryu needs to be with me~”

“We shouldn’t need to... I think you’re worrying too much. Also, the floor here is so hard that there’s no way we could sleep at all.”

“Ah~ then why don’t we go to the sports warehouse? There are mats there. We could lie there and talk until morning.”

“What are you saying? We’re in the middle of escaping. Also, compared to the sports warehouse, going back to the dormitory would be faster.”

“You’re right..... Hmph. Ryu really doesn’t understand people’s feelings at all.”

Yuki pouted unhappily.

“Huh, what do you mean? Did I say something wrong?”

“Nothing. Since Ryu wants to go back so much, then we’ll follow your wishes and quickly go back to the dormitory, okay?”

“.....I don’t know why you’re suddenly using honorifics, but you can feel free to do so. —Ah, before we go back, let’s go to the science room to see Kujyo.”

“Why!? Do you care that much about what Elena is doing!?”

Despite only giving her some advice, Yuki showed an extreme response.

“It’s not really being worried about Kujyo. It’s more being interested in what she’s doing at night in the science classroom.”

“Um.....I can't say I'm not concerned.....”

“Right? Also, if she really is in the school, she should have heard the glass shattering just now. We better go explain to her what had happened. If she doesn't understand the situation, then she shouldn't act too freely.”

“..... Ryu really cares for other people.....”

“I'm just a worrywart. Come on, let's go.”

“Okay.....”

Although Yuki looked unsatisfied, she obediently followed me when I stood up and walked out.

It was quiet in the school yard, but there should be members of the disciplinary committee hidden in the darkness. In order to be able to respond to an encounter at any time, I was alert to the surrounding darkness while creeping down the stairs.

Finally arriving in front of the science room, we tried our best not to make any noise while slowly putting our hands on the door handle.

However, no matter how hard to pulled it, the door did not move an inch. It seemed that it was locked.

—-Maybe Kujyo didn't come today.

As I was thinking that, I heard something move from inside the classroom.

Because we couldn't yell in the corridor, I decided to use my ability to get inside the classroom. Because I could decide between sending Ryuichi and Ryuji, this time i sent Ryuichi inside.

“Kujyo, are you is that you?”

After I putting down my swimming bag on the table, I used and made a copy of myself inside the room using it to call Kujyo.

“.....What? Oh, it's Yagumo.”

I turned my head to the direction of the sound. From the faint light of the window, I saw the beautiful girl with a black tie on her silver hair. She was staring at me with her sharp red eyes. It was definitely Kujyo Elena.

“I thought you were you of the disciplinary committee that came. I was almost going to attack you.”

“.....Then it seems I dodged a bullet.”

If B class Kujyo attacked, I would have definitely been unable to leave.

“So, Kujyo, what are you doing here? I heard Nanami say that you’ll be going to the pool, but I haven’t heard anything about you coming to the science room? Also, the sound of shattering glass from approximately thirty minutes ago , did you two destroy it for fun?”

“No, that should have been the disciplinary committee.”

While I went to open the door, I told her about what had happened. The door slowly opened. From the door that only fits one person at a time, Yuki and Ryuji finally got inside.

“.....That’s outrageous.”

After hearing what had happened, Kujyo replied that to me while looking at me with a shocked expression.

“If you could use to fight back, why didn’t you just kill him.”

“How could we do that. What’s worse is that we came out of the school in the middle of the night.”

“Hmph. So, starting from two months ago, the school had already become a 「ability ranked」 school system? In short, it’s basically 「the strong can do anything」, which everyone had to acquiesce. Therefore, the problem wasn’t that you sneaked into the school, but rather that you didn’t beat Kito. How weak are you going to be?”

“.....The things like the strong rule was all determined by the third-years.”

“That’s true. However, aren’t the constitution and laws determined by our predecessors? If someone who stands at the top changes, then the rules would also change. The people that can’t adapt will become extinct. Unfortunately, that’s how the world works, so before you whine about it, become stronger.”

Kujyo looked at me unmercifully while relentlessly critiquing me. Not even talking about how the world works, this kind of idea in human society is already

wrong. However, in this kind of place, I couldn't think of anything to refute her.

.....Well, it's pointless to keep on arguing with Kujyo. It would be better to show my mature side and sincerely apologize.

“——Even if you're right, it's hard to imagine doing this kind of thing to the third years.”

Before my words of apology were even been said, the Ryuji behind me became nosy.

“What can a C class like me do when even B class Exceeds can't beat them.”

“Hmph. That's just an excuse. Even if your opponent is stronger than you, that doesn't mean you're definitely going to lose. If you just think of something like a strategy, then there would definitely be a way to win.”

“I wouldn't even try to think of something like a strategy. Kujyo, you don't understand the mindset of the weak.”

“Really. So, even though you don't agree with the status quo, you would obediently endure it?”

“Right. Even if we think of a way to defeat a B class, we would still have a long way to go to before we could beat an S class. No matter how much effort we put in, it's still impossible to defeat a S class Exceed.”

“——Huh?”

Kujyo looked like she was in a bad mood, and made smacking sounds with her mouth. She grasped Ryuji's tie and pulled him towards her.

“You can't win against an S class no matter how hard you work? Shouldn't you say that after working to death?”

“——!?”

“I think you're just trying to run away by saying what you said earlier. I'll tell you right now. That phrase 「I will not fight what I can't beat」 is really lame. You only said it in a more pleasant way. Basically, you want to get results without working. Comparing people like you who pretend to be strong with the people who work to death but still lose like crap. The people who work are a hundreds times cooler than you.”

“.....!!”

I was speechless. Everything was as Kujyo said.

I was being treated unfairly by third-years. However, among the people who faced the same situation as me, there are plenty of people who were trying to break through the status quo. Compared to them, I did feel a little ashamed.

Ryuji, who was being scolded, had the same dumbfounded expression as I did. It would be better to say he was relentlessly scolded, he probably felt a greater shock than I did. Because of what Kujyo said, he was in disarray. His heart was struck deeply by her blunt gaze.

——After analyzing Ryuji’s situation, Ryuji’s body trembled as he said these affectionate words to Kujyo as she restrained him.:

“Listen to me, Kujyo! Right now, I really want to do naughty things with you!”

“.....”

The room went completely silent.

What Ryuji said made Kujyo flush. She opened and closed her mouth several times. On the other hand, Yuki stared blankly with rounded eyes.

I tried hard to understand what was going on because I wasn’t sure what had happened. Even Ryuji didn’t know what exactly was happening.

“.....Um, wait a second. You said words of sexual harassment as I was scolding you. What kind of retaliation is this?”

After a few seconds, Kujyo, who recovered from the shock, immediately asked the question on her mind.

In contrast, Ryuji hadn’t calmed down from his excited state, yet. He replied with a crazed tone.

“What Kujyo told me earlier made me realize that I really have been a pussy.”

“.....Mhm, that I can understand.”

“I have this feeling that I, who hasn’t worked at all, could never understand the people who have challenged the dominators many times.”

“Yes, that’s right, too.”

“So, I can’t suppress the desire to you pursue, Kujyo.”

“It’s that!”

Kujyo lifted her right hand and pointed at Ryuji’s nose.

“That kind of thinking is going too far. Why do you suddenly want my body?”

“Do I even have to explain myself? It’s obviously so Kujyo can have my kids.”

“How’re you so serious when you’re saying something so crude!?”

Showing lament, Kujyo immediately increased the distance between them.

“I obviously didn’t think you would understand me. However, you have no chance of winning. I intend to convey all my feelings for you.”

While sexual harrassing her, Ryuji’s expression was sincere. Across from me, this strong-willed fool doesn’t even care about having a good impression on Kujyo. In his head, the only thing he cares about now is how to get together with Kujyo.

“Kujyo, I’m serious! I’m a changed man! So if it’s possible, I hope you could be by my side! One day you’ll come to love me and become my woman!”

“.....What is this boring jokester doing.....”

Kujyo mumbled this quietly and shyly put her head down. At first glance, it seemed like Ryuji actually had a chance to get her. He’s really good.

——Ok, we should be able to stop now. If I keep letting Ryuji go on like this, I would close myself in because of my self-loathing.

Also, Yuki, who was on the side, had unimaginable expression of despair rarely seen on this world. She started chanting Amitabha. If I don’t end this kind of ambience, then it could become a problem.

I stepped in between the two of them. I then pointed at Ryuji and apologized for him.

“Sorry, Kujyo. This guy isn’t normal. Please think about what happened earlier as a nightmare and forget about it.”

Kujyo looked at me with contempt.

“Then don’t say these kinds of things so casually. How could I forget about it so easily after being openly sexually harassed?”

.....That’s true.

“Besides, he’s a part of you. You actually said 「that me」 like you didn’t have anything to do with it. Isn’t that way too weird?”

“Ah, no it’s not. There’s actually a reason for this.....”

Wearing a stiff smile, I started explaining .

“Actually, when I use I split into two. Although our appearances are the same, our personalities are completely different.”

“——Different personalities?”

“Yes.Although it’s somewhat difficult to explain, basically, I’m the normal one and that part of Ryuji is the stupid copy.”

“Huh? Ryuichi, you’re okay with calling yourself stupid?”

“Ryuji you don’t have the right to call anyone stupid. You’re annoying. Be quiet for me.”

After Kujoyo used a stern tone to order him to shut up, I continued my explanation.However, because it’s was so troublesome, I started to get a headache. To use appropriate words to describe the two mes of is really difficult.

If I were to describe Ryuji by personality, he’s pretty simple. He’s basically a real person, but he’s the kind that acts on instincts and feels that only enjoying yourself in the moment matters.

Compared to him, I’m very black bellied. I’m always suspicious. Compared to the social group, I’m more like a lone wolf. My motto is 「lying is expedient」, and I’m always worried about my future.

If a girl wearing a miniskirt appears before Ryuji and me, we would both immediately think of ways to try and peek at her underwear. During this time, the obviously perverted Ryuji would immediately give up, unable to bear the guilt. On the other hand, I would try to take a closer look, without feeling any guilt at all. This is because I think that if you want to wear a miniskirt, you should be able to bear the risk of being peeped at.

——If I had actually said this, however, I would be looked at in a negative light. So, I decided to use some more proper examples to explain.

“For example, using will create two mes, under the same environment, you would only need two weeks of time to clearly see the difference. Ryuji might have a lot of friends by his side. Every weekend, he might go karaoking with his friends or go biking at the beach. In contrast, I, Ryuichi, would rather be alone. I wouldn’t have many people close to me. On the weekends, I would close myself in at home, watch television or read a book.”

“W-wait. You two were originally one person, so why is there such a big difference?”

Kujyo folded her arms, seemingly unable to understand.

“No matter how you think about it, that’s too extreme. Maybe you actually have split personality, and after splitting, you each got your own body?”

“Hey..... even if it’s not a split personality, doesn’t everyone have many different sides to themselves? Think about it, aren’t people who are normally very honest, violent when they’re drunk? This is the same concept, Ryuji is the part that relies solely on emotion and action, and I am the part that utilizes reasoning. It’s that kind of thing.”

“Ah..... the original Yagumo would be dominated by emotions, and his sexual desire would erupt.”

“What?”

This statement is actually true. I can’t refute it at all.

“..... Forget it. I’ll reluctantly accept your explanation.”

Satisfied from seeing my speechless look, Kujyo showed a faint smile.

“So, the Ryuji who sexually harassed me, are you planning to use the drunk man excuse to write it off?”

“Ah, I wouldn’t be so deceptive. I apologize if you thought I was being distasteful.”

Deactivating , I merged back together and bowed.

“The words that I said earlier were very stupid. I’m really sorry.”

“No problem, Yagumo. You don’t need to apologize.”

Being urged to raise my head, I stood up straight. As soon as I did, I saw Kujyo’s malicious smile.

“Apologizing is very simple, you only have to say it. However, if you want me to forget about what happened today, that would depend on your attitude in the future. Do you understand what I’m saying?”

“.....”

Basically, it seems that her meaning was that this time, resistance was futile. Although I deserved it, it would be closer to the truth that this formidable opponent grasped my weakness.

“But, then again.”

While peering at the face of Yuki, who was still rambling, Kujyo shyly touched her cheek. Just as I was thinking about what to do, she grabbed my right hand.

“Come with me for a bit.”

She pulled me to the corner of the room, and put her face close to my ear, then asked me in a whisper.

“.....Hey, is there no problem with you sexually harassing me in front of Nanami? I think Nanami——”

“Huh? What are you talking about, Kujyo? Even if Yuki wasn’t there, sexual harassment is still a problem. Don’t you know that?”

“——The person who did the harassing has no right to say that!!”

At the same time as shouted that, she punched me on the left left cheek.

If I were to make a straight man comment, it would be that she used a bit too much force there.

“.....Whatever. I’m too lazy to meddle with your problems.”

“Huh? Our problems?”

“Nothing. I just think that it isn’t easy for Yuki. It makes me feel a bit

sympathetic for her.”

“.....? What do you mean?”

However, Kujyo didn’t answer my question. She shrugged and returned to where she was before. Confused, I just followed her.

“Right, what were you doing in the science lab so late?”

I finally asked her for the reason why she had come to the science room.

“I heard from Yuki that you would often sneak into school.”

“Hmph, that’s a really stupid question. There would only be one reason for someone to sneak into a school. It’s so that other people wouldn’t know.”

“Could it be something dangerous?”

“Something dangerous? What are you referring to?”

“For example, making bombs.”

“..... Bombs, huh.... That’s not a bad suggestion...”

Kujyo stroked a silver strand her hair and sneered.

“No, no, I wasn’t trying to give you any suggestions.....”

“But it’s really unfortunate, I don’t really know how to make bombs. Because we can’t use the internet, I have no way of researching it either.”

“Could you not consider this so seriously?”

If Kujyo really managed to get her on hands on some bombs, she definitely wouldn’t hesitate to use them to beat the third-years. She’s so scary.

“—By the way Yagumo, are you able to represent the name [Tachibana Sogo] in numbers? Perhaps with just the surname, or the first name as numbers.”

“Huh? Representing the first name into numbers? What’s that, a riddle?”

“Something like that. To put it simply, Tachibana Sogo, a self-proclaimed god, has seemingly used his name as his password. But I have been struggling to figure out the answer.”

“Oh~”

After I looking around a little, I answered.

“Using numbers to represent hiragana, it’s usually in the order of the japanese syllabary. If it’s 「Tachibana」, 「ta」 is 16, 「chi」 is 17, 「ha」 is 26, and 「na」 is 21, so it should be 16172621? However, I don’t know what to do with 「ba」.

“Unfortunately, it’s not that. If it was that easy, I would’ve cracked it already. No matter what order I put the kana in, and I’ve tried them all, none of them are correct. I even tried using english names and letters a few times.”

“Oh— —maybe we should look at in a different light way we’re looking at it.....”

While talking to myself in a low voice, I changed my way of looking at the problem.

“Oh, have you tried binary codes? For example [0000] or [0001].”

“I don’t how many digits the password has, only that it’s at most ten. It might be three or ten. And if you happen to make three mistakes in a single day, you have to wait until the next day to try again.”

“How about directly hacking it?”

“Without both phones and computers, how do you expect me to do something so difficult? However, if the other side put in some kind of firewall. Then the instant we connect to it with a device, the entire system could be destroyed.”

“It really has a tight security system.....”

What’s going to happen even if we do crack the password. Although I’m very interested, it looks like Kujyo doesn’t intend to tell me.

“By the way, I just translated [宗吾] into english, and it turned out to be [Sogo]. I thought that the letters and 5090 were very similar. Try typing it in and see if it works or not.”

“Ah, they really are similar..... Tachibana.....Sogo.....

I folded my arms across my chest and paced back and forth, thinking about the question nonstop. The whole room once again went quiet. The only sounds were from Yuki quietly chanting Amitabha.She’s still doing it.

While doing a straight man act, I kept on pacing. My eyes inadvertently swept onto the Periodic Table on the wall.

“——!!”

I saw all the atomic numbers before me, and suddenly, I had an idea.

“Hey, Kujyo. 「Tachibana」 in Roman is 「Tatibana」, right?”

“No, if we use roman words to spell it, the correct way to write it would be [Chi]. Although, you can also type [Ti] on the computer.”

“Then let’s say it’s written as 「Ti」. Next, let’s separate the letters of 「Tatibana」 into pairs and match them with the atomic number.”

“Huh?.....Ah!!”

“Right? 「Ta」 is Tantalum with an atomic number of 73, 「Ti」 is 22 for Titanium, 「Ba」 is 56 for Barium, and 「Na」 is 11 for Sodium. If you put them all together, then the number is 73225611.”

After hearing my deduction, Kujyo rushed towards the periodic table like a bullet, and studied every atomic number as she did this her expression became much warmer. While I was thinking this, she had already rushed to the room’s cabinet and opened the bottom drawer.

Just as I was wondering what she was doing, she had already started concentrating on moving a large amounts of textbooks. If you crouched down a little, you could see that a control panel was fixed onto the wall.

Kujyo turned on the control panel, and asked me to input the eight numbers. Immediately after, a loud ‘click’ sound came from the center of the science room. Surprised, I immediately looked towards the source of the sound, and discovered that something similar to four square shaped floorboards had slowly popped out. It was about the height of my ankle.

Kujyo immediately rushed forward, and shoved her finger into the gap, opening the thick floorboards. A small tunnel that could fit a single person had been unveiled.

“Amazing..... It looks like you guessed right”

Surprised, Kujyo said as she cautiously looked at me with her rounded eyes.

“I had spent so many days on this and I still couldn’t figure it out!”

“Well, this kind of mind game needs someone with a good sense. Also, my luck in this science room could be considered ‘good’.”

“Even if it’s like that, you’re still incredible. I always thought that Yagumo was a retard. I guess God really does give everyone a bit of talent. Although you have the talent to crack codes, it’s completely useless in your daily life, God really is great.”

“Say, Kujiyo. Can you stop complimenting me so sarcastically, also isn’t it about time for you to explain to us, what’s happening? Could this be a secret passageway?”

“That should be right. From my deductions, it should lead to a certain place.”

“A certain place?”

“The laboratory of the man called Tachibana Sogo.”

This was completely different from last time, this time Kujiyo answered my questions directly. Since we had already got the answer, it looked like we could finally know her reason for sneaking into the school.

“Do you know about the legend of the two swords hidden in the school? This was the Exceed ability of Tachibana Sogo, who created the sacred sword and demonic blade.”

Yuki and I couldn’t help but look at each other for a moment.

“We’ve heard of this legend as well, but we’ve only heard about the sacred sword.”

“Then the source should be the same. Originally, I was the one who investigated it in detail by reading many books in the library.”

Kujiyo proudly puffed out her thin chest and then continued to explain.

“A few years ago, I learnt about Tachibana Sogo who had used his power to create the sacred sword and demonic blade at this school. The sacred sword was also known as the 「Sacred Dragon’s Claw」, and the demonic blade was also known as the 「Demonic Dragon’s Fang」. The sacred dragon’s claw could cut anything apart, and the demonic dragon’s fang could consume anything.....

However, the weapons were said to be too strong. So, Tachibana Sogo used a mechanism to seal both swords together.”

“The sacred dragon’s claw and the demonic dragon’s fang..... It feels like a very abstract ability..”

“But the legends said it was like this.”

“So, what you’re saying is that if the legends are true, then the two swords are hidden in this hole?”

“Of course I can’t say I’m completely sure about this, but if we want to defeat a S ranked Exceed, then we can only hope that this kind of ethereal thing actually exists. After deciding upon my objective in May, I started reading all kinds of books in library for information to find out the location of the sacred sword and demonic blade.”

“Ah..... In the end, you found it in the science classroom, and every time you thought of a password, you would sneak in here to try it out.”

“In simple terms, that’s correct.”

While Kujyo was explaining the situation, she crouched down by the entrance of the cave and shone her flashlight into the hole. The hole was approximately two meters deep and had an ancient entrance at in its innermost recesses, extending towards the direction of the corridor. Because the length of the bridge wasn’t very close, we couldn’t see where the ancient entrance led.

“Hey, Yagumo. Don’t you have any interest to go explore where this tunnel leads?”

“—Huh? Wait a second. Why don’t you go by yourself?”

“There might be traps inside. I don’t want to act rashly when I can’t guarantee my own safety. There’s a saying, a smart man doesn’t stand under a collapsing wall.”

“.....Ohhh, so you’re going to make me the victim instead.”

What a cruel woman.

“Besides, isn’t perfect for this job? All you have to do is split into Ryuichi and Ryuji, and make one of them go in the hole. Even if there’s some sort of danger,

you could immediately get out by deactivating your ability.”

“.....I see. You do have a point.”

Although I felt like I was being tricked, she did sound pretty convincing.

However, a good plan and whether or not it could be carried out were two different things. This kind of job that requires thinking is best left to Ryuichi, but because of what had happened earlier, I didn’t really want to leave Ryuji here. If it doesn’t go well, Kujiyo would scold me.

“.....Um, could I go with Ryuji?”

Immediately after I was thinking about who to send into the tunnel, Yuki broke the silence by volunteering.

“What? Yuki, you want to go into this worrisome hole?”

“It’s not that I want to go in.....It’s just that I have some things I want to talk to you about. It’s for the best if it’s just the two of us.”

“You want to be alone with me? Isn’t it a little inconvenient inside a cave, though?”

“T-that’s true, but.....”

“— —Yagumo, stop wasting time. Since Nanami asked you, just quickly get down there.”

Kujiyo suddenly said with a commanding tone. Then, she threw me the flashlight from behind.

“If you dare refuse, I will spread that stupid thing that you did everywhere.”

“.....”

Since she said it like that, I couldn’t do anything about it. I could only give up and agree to investigate the hidden passage.

After pondering about it, I decided not to directly use to go inside. Nevertheless, if there is any trouble, then it would be problematic. That’s why I would lead the way. That way, even if I couldn’t move, I could use to get out.

After we went down the hole, we laid down and turned into the entrance next to us. The passage seemed to go very far, so I could only use my teeth to clench

onto the flashlight to light our way. We slowly crawled through the narrow hole. It was okay that our uniforms were covered by sand, but there was a lot of spider webs. They stuck to our faces. It was disgusting. However, I should be glad. Other than the cobwebs, there wasn't any traps to prevent intruders.

"That's right, Yuki. You said that you wanted to tell me something. What is it?"

I took the flashlight out of my mouth, and asked Yuki, who was behind me. However, she didn't reply. There was only the sound of friction from crawling.

.....I wasn't sure what she was hinting at. Did she want me to move forward a little longer or did she want to talk about it later?

After going forward a little longer, we reached the end. It was about thirty meters away from the entrance.

I used the flashlight to light up and carefully examine our surroundings. I found a button buried. It was under a large amount of sand. There was no way to tell at first glance.

"Hey, Ryu. Did you find something?"

"Mhm. Although there's no path from here, I found a very small button."

"A button? If you press it, could we keep moving forward?"

"It's possible, but if you turn that statement around, it could be a trap. Should I just push it, or should we stay on the safe side and go back....."

The part of me that's always suspicious of danger started to take over. Yuki, who was behind me, in a dependable tone said to me,

"Let's try and click it. Even if something happens, I could use to support you from behind."

"Is there really no problem with this? If this doesn't go well even you could be in danger, you know?"

"No problem! Because our fates are intertwined together!"

"Huh? I think this is the first time I've heard that."

"We're soul mates!! Ever since school started, we've always been together and we're friends with a strong bond!!"

“No, no. What are you talking about always being together? Didn’t we just meet three months ago?”

“Then it’s soul food!!”

“Even if you want to use an imposing manner to convince me, it’s still not soul food.”

Things that could be regarded as soul food are the Japanese’s miso soup or the Indians’ curry. No matter how far-fetched the explanation, it still shouldn’t be used to describe relationships.

“.....However, since you told me to, I guess I’ll just try pressing it down.”

“Yeah, be careful.”

After hearing Yuki’s response, I gently wiped off the dirt on top of it, determined to press it down.

“——Wahhh!?”

“Ah!!”

The floor underneath us suddenly disappeared. We fell for about two meters and then landed on something bouncy.

“That scared me.....I didn’t think that the floor would suddenly disappear.”

I immediately got up and surveyed our surroundings. However, everything was shrouded in darkness. I couldn’t see anything.

“Ryu, it’s so dark——where’s the flashlight?”

Yuki, who fell down with me, sounded very disturbed as she asked me that question.

“Sorry, I was too surprised, so I couldn’t hold it properly. Also, it looks like the battery fell out when it hit the ground.”

While explaining, I tried to feel the ground for the flashlight. It shouldn’t have rolled very far——

While I was feeling for it in the dark, I suddenly felt something incredibly soft on the palm of my right hand. To confirm what it was, I tried squeezing it a few times.

“Ah!! Ryu, you pervert!!”

“Huh?— —Ah!! Sorry!!”

“Ah!! That place is off limits!!”

“Off limits!? Where did I actually touch?”

Even I couldn't help but sound regretful as I quickly distanced myself from that place.

“Sorry, Yuki! Forgive me! It really wasn't on purpose!”

“.....Really? It really wasn't on purpose?”

“Of course! I swear it wasn't on purpose! It was completely unintentional!”

“Boo— —”

Yuki seemed to have made a dissatisfied moan. After that, she didn't talk anymore.

Then, after going through lots of hardship, I found the flashlight. I put the batteries back in and then turned it on. I shone it around me and got face to face with Yuki, who was completely red to the ears.

“.....Seriously! Ryu did many things to my chest that shouldn't be done!”

Yuki complained while pressing my chest with her hands. She's really someone who gets mad easily.

That aside, Yuki's tits was incredibly soft. My palms still had that warm feeling. Even with her clothes on, it was already this soft. I wonder what it would feel like if I touched them directly. Everytime I thought back to this point, I remembered the scene I had seen at the swimming pool— —

“You can't remember that!!”

“Yes! I'm very sorry!”

As I tried to get those two incidents out of my mind, I shone the flashlight around my surroundings.

It seemed like a secret room had been built underground. It was approximately the size of an ordinary classroom. All the walls and floorboards were made of

rocks. However, the place where we had fallen down onto had been coated with something soft.

..... If he had the time to prepare something like that, why didn't he think of another way to enter this place.....

I used my phone as a flashlight in order to illuminate the ceiling, there were many lights lined up. There was only one place like a cardboard lid separating the middle. Could it have been that when the button was pressed, that that would open up.

“By looking at the direction that we came from, this should be the underground floor, right?”

“That should be correct. Although, the City of God Academy shouldn't have an underground floor, right?”

“Then this part of the Academy wasn't recorded in the construction blueprints, so shouldn't this room be a「room that shouldn't exist」?”

I shone my light on every corner and finally found a switch on the wall. It looked exactly like the classroom's light switch.

Although I had a bad feeling because we fell for the trap earlier, using a flashlight to investigate is very arduous. After being pressured to turn it on by Yuki, I gingerly pushed the ON switch.

Suddenly, all the lights on the ceiling turned on, making the entire room shine as bright as day. It seemed as if electricity was still connected to it.

Because the entire room lit up, we could not only see the desks, chairs, and refrigerator, but also an enormous bookshelf and everyday furniture like a large cabinet. There were a lot of resources stored in the bookshelf, and there was also a silver laptop on the desk.

Walking in front of the desk, we found the laptop's cover had a gigantic dragon sticker stuck onto it. To have called the sacred sword 'the sacred dragon's claw' and the evil blade 'The demonic dragon's fang', the person named Tachibana must have really liked dragons.

There was no response when we pressed the laptop's power button. I thought

that was a bit suspicious, so we checked it out. I found out that there was no power cable. Without a power source, this computer might as well be a decoration.

We then retrieved some random files from the bookshelf to look at. Those were all sealed with dragon stickers, too. To like dragons to this extent, would make some people feel a bit irritated. When we casually opened up one of the files, inside was filled with bound volumes of data on things like experiments. It had just been as Kujiyo had guessed. This really was Tachibana's laboratory.

"Hey, Ryu. Isn't this the sword that Elena was talking about?"

Opening the closet's highest drawer, Yuki pointed at the sword inside and asked me.

I threw down the documents that I had in my hands, quickly walked to the cabinet, and peaked inside.

"..... I feel like hiding the sacred sword and the demonic blade here is a little careless."

Although it was still in its sheath, it wasn't being placed in a decent pedestal, nor was it wrapped in something luxurious, it looked as if it was placed here on a whim.

"However, it doesn't look like it's been sealed. It's hard to believe that this was the sacred sword or the demonic blade."

"Is this to make us let our guard down? If it was discovered by some random person who fell down here, even they wouldn't think that this is a very powerful weapon."

"If you want to enter that secret passageway, you would need to crack that code. Would there really be people falling in here randomly?"

"Ah, that's true. Then, is it something like: although it might look like a normal sword, only a true hero could pull it out?"

"Ahem, ahem. Saying that to someone like me, who really likes RPGs is getting me really pumped up."

I got excited by Yuki's words, so I grabbed the sword with both hands.

Originally wanting to pull the sword out in one go, it turned out that the sword easily came out of its sheath without even needing to use any strength.

“..... I didn’t expect to pull it out so easily.”

“Does that mean Ryu is the hero that was chosen by the heavens!?!?”

“How could that be possible. Yuki, you try, too.”

After putting the sword back into its sheath, I handed the sword to Yuki. It turned out that anyone could pull the sword out, Yuki pulled the sword out and put it back in several times to make sure.

We carefully examined the sword. No matter from which angle we looked at it from, it still just looked like a normal sword.

“We should be able to conclude that the sword is neither the sacred sword nor the demonic blade.”

“B-but, maybe knowledgeable people can see that it’s a powerful weapon? You see, on this world, something may just look like graffiti to us, but it’s actually a painting worth millions of yen?”

“Yuki, I think you’re just being too hopeful.....Besides, aren’t two swords being sealed? Other than this, we didn’t see anything else, right?”

We opened the rest of the drawers, but only the top drawer held anything.

.....At least, it was better than nothing. Although, it seemed like this was nothing but an ordinary sword.

We were fascinated by the mysterious sword, which led us to being confused. We decided to go back to the science room. After turning off the lights, we used the ladder to climb back up through the ceiling, then we crawled forward in the dark and cramped tunnel. Because we had already cleared all the spiderwebs when we entered earlier, it was a lot easier compared to then.

“——Ah, you’re finally back. You guys are way too slow.”

The moment that our heads peeped through the opening, Kujiyo ran over. She looked quite impatient, and didn’t pay too much attention. Thanks to this, I was able to see her with her legs crossed from a downwards perspective.

Also, the flashlight that I bit on had the light on, and coincidentally shone under Kujoyo's skirt.

"——Ah!! No!!"

Kujoyo noticed her blunder a second too late, and let out a cute moaning sound. At the same time, she held down her skirt.

However, it was too late. I had already confirmed the secret color hidden under Kujoyo's skirt. It was white with blue stripes.

"——Now, Yagumo. Do you want to try hibernating right now? If you sleep for maybe about a hundred years, you should forget about anything unneeded."

"W-wait a moment! I've already found the sword, so please forgive me!"

The moment I begged her forgiveness by quickly pulling out the sword, Kujoyo immediately darted towards me.

However, after inspecting all of the unknown sword that had been pulled out from its sheath. Kujoyo's expression became gloomy.

"Ah..... Unfortunately, it seems that this is neither the sacred sword nor the demonic blade."

"Huh, really?"

"Yes. The books inside the library recorded that 「The sacred sword and demonic blade, upon contact, would feel different from other blades, they're weapons that surpass imagination」. However, this sword has no reaction no matter how I wield it. That is to say, we found ourselves a fake. Damn, to do something so annoying."

Kujoyo disappointedly put the sword back into its sheath, then tossed it at the me who had just climbed out from the cave.

"Yagumo cracked the code, so you're responsible for disposing it."

"I'm being forced to dispose it as well!?"

"What did you say, Yagumo, you can't decide that the sword is fake so quickly. Maybe it might provide a clue to where the sacred sword and demonic blade's really buried. Therefore, before the necessary time comes, I hope you'll keep it

safe.”

“There’s no way you were thinking that right!? You just said 「you have to take responsibility and dispose of it」. These words had already exposed your intentions!”

Kujyo really was going overboard..... Whatever, I did accidentally see her underwear earlier, so it’s alright.

“Hey, Ryu. Do you want me to throw it away? Although I don’t know what kind of sword this is.”

“Ah, probably dangerous stuff.”

After answering, an idea suddenly sprouted within my brain.

“——No, actually, I won’t throw it away. I’ll use this sword to figure out a plan to defeat S ranks!”

After saying that, I gripped the sword tightly. A major reason why wasn’t suitable for combat was because it had no offensive skills. Even if it was a normal sword, if I used it in the right way, and maybe I could defeat a superior opponent.

“Because Kujyo once said, 「don’t fight a battle where you don’t have the capability」, it really suck, ah...”

“——Hmph, that’s really frank.”

Kujyo said with a smile.

“I have no interest in this kind of ordinary sword anyways. Tomorrow, I’ll be looking for the real location the sacred sword and demonic blade are hidden.”

“If you encounter another unbreakable code, remember to ask me for help.”

“That’s true. Although I don’t really want to, you’re much better than me or Yuki at solving these kinds of puzzles.”

Kujyo began insulting me again. I couldn’t help but smile a bit.

“Maybe next time we’ll be tricked again by false information, and we’ll find a hammer.”

“To be able to find a few weapons isn’t necessarily a bad thing. Also, the truth

is that since the underground room exists, that means that the authenticity of the sacred sword and demonic blade also increases. Don't you think that this also counts as getting closer to our target?"

"True. However, I'm afraid that wherever they're true location, might be, it'll be filled with really scary traps waiting for us."

"Yes. And at that time, we'll have to rely on you, trap master Yagumo."

"Wait a minute, what kind of nickname is that? I haven't learned anything about disarming traps."

"No, no, no, you were able to successfully get through a tunnel that's not long at all, and successfully retrieve a sword that's basically useless. If you're not a master, then what are you."

"Aren't you treating me as an idiot again? Kujiyo, do you really need to treat people like they're stupid?"

After bantering a bit with Kujiyo, I suddenly recalled something. In the end, I wasn't able to ask Yuki what she was the 「only for us two wanted」 she wanted to tell me.

..... Forget it. Too much had happened today, I was already tired enough. After tomorrow, there are still the chances to be alone with her, I'll ask her again when there's time.

Our late-night adventure had finally ended, and we decided to return to the dormitories.

Full Chapter



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Greed Giant Full:

The next day would be the 30th of June. Awoken at 7:30 by a loud alarm. I thought of the piece of the alarm clock that my sister had given me that I had broken. I couldn't help but feel a bit melancholic. This was completely because my swimsuit bag had knocked the clock onto the floor, and it broke last night.

This alarm clock was given to me by my little sister on the day that I decided to go to study at the City of God Academy. I was given this gift with these wishes:

「Big brother won't be lonely with this, even when you are alone, and you'll be able to wake up when I'm not there.」

Every time I see this clock, I would think of my sister's pure smile. After our mobile phones were confiscated, this alarm clock was the only thing to remind me of my family.

...I guess I'll go to the school store to buy some glue after school. As long as it's fixed, my heart full of homesickness would ease a bit.

After making the important decision of what to do after school, I got out of bed, changed my clothes, and left my room.

In this school, the students dined in a place called the「Restaurant Floor」. It was a two-storey building built between the boys' and girls' dormitories. Shops were on the first floor, and a cafeteria on the second.

After the Schol Lockdown Game had started, the cafeteria was only open at three set times each day. These slots were 「7:00 – 8:00」, 「12:30 – 13:30」 and 「18:00 – 19:00」. We would go to the cafeteria during those time periods, and choose our favorite food to eat from a buffet-styled arrangement.

If you go over the set time periods, then you would be mercilessly kicked out of the cafeteria, and the food would be confiscated. Being able to eat was your own responsibility, so it would suck if you overslept. If you really couldn't take it anymore, then you could only go to the store to buy some snacks for calories.

Immediately after going out of the dormitory, I squinted from the dazzling rays of sunlight. It was probably because the air was quite dry, so it didn't feel very hot.

From exit of the staircase to the cafeteria on the second floor, more than half of the 200 seats were taken. I held a plastic meal tray. There were about fifty different dishes placed in the middle of the cafeteria. I followed my instinct and picked my favorite foods: chocolate croissants, pasta, fried chicken nuggets and roasted beef.

After filling my plate with high calorie foods, I started wondering about where I should sit. Usually I would eat with Yuki, but I couldn't see her anywhere today. Normally at this time, she would already be at the cafeteria. Did something happen? Also, what was she chanting last night? Could it have been that she felt sick?

...Now that I think about it, I still haven't told Kujiyo about the laptop and research data that was in the underground room...

As I was reminiscing about what happened last night, I suddenly remembered.

After calmly considering the situation, I thought that it was a mistake that anyone would hate. Although being scolded severely is making me scared, I should immediately rush to her and tell her about it if I saw her.

Scanning the cafeteria, I immediately spotted Kujiyo's figure. She always sat at the farthest spot, near to the wall. It seems that this had already become her habit.

Separating myself from the crowd, I walked towards Kujiyo.

"Hey, Kujiyo. Good Morning."

"—What. Oh, it's Yagumo. What can I do for you?"

Kujiyo poked at the salad and looked at me with a bored expression. I felt a little suffocated. I first put my plate on the table, then sat across her.

"Actually, I came here to apologise to you."

"...This is my first time being greeted and immediately apologised to right after. So, what are you apologizing for?"

"Um, I hope you don't get angry after hearing it—"

"That's impossible."

"I haven't even said anything, yet!?"

"It should be clear. Even if it's something not worth getting angry at, I'll still get angry. It would always end up like that whenever you come talk to me."

"Our relationship is simply terrible!"

"Stop rambling and quickly get to the point. What a waste of time."

"Isn't that too unreasonable!?"

While holding in the unpleasant feelings from being scolded before even getting to the topic, I told her what I saw yesterday in the underground room.

"...Basically, what you're saying is that there's a huge bookcase in the underground room with lots of documents. And there was also a laptop on the table, right?"

Kujiyo showed a scary expression, glared angrily at me.

“B-but, the laptop didn’t have a power cable, so it couldn’t be turned on at all, right?”

“Even if it’s like that, why didn’t you tell me yesterday? Maybe there’s crucial information on the sacred sword and demonic blade in there!”

“I’m really sorry. I was only thinking about the sword that we had found yesterday.”

“Hmph. Then after finding out that the sword was a fake, you should’ve thought about reporting this information to me.”

“Even if you say that, you didn’t ask me about the details of the underground room.”

“What did you say?”

“S-Sorry...”

I Involuntarily retorted. I could only only apologise non-stop now.

“...However, if Kujyo feels like it’s necessary, I could go retrieve the laptop and the data right now.”

After giving my own humble opinion, Kujyo seemed very unhappy and shook her head.

“We can’t. If we skipped class, then the third years might find out. Also if we don’t handle it right, the situation on the underground room would be exposed. If we want to retrieve the documents, the best time would be after school.”

“However, if I just use , I could make one of my selves go to class, while my other self skips class and goes to the underground room.”

“—I see, there was that method.”

Kujyo slapped her leg, she seems to have accepted this suggestion.

“Then, can I leave the matter of the underground room to you?”

“Of course.”

After getting my reliable answer, Kujyo smiled with satisfaction. It seemed like I had finally succeeded in restoring my reputation.

“Good morning you two!!”

I turned back towards the energetic voice. Yuki stood there full of happiness. Her plate was filled with vegetables.

“Can I sit here?”

She sat to my left before I could even answer. The whole atmosphere of the table seemed to liven up.

However, after Kujiyo meaningfully scanned Yuki with a meaningful eye, she quickly stood up.

“I’ve finished eating. I’ll head to the classroom first. I’ll have to trouble you with the matter concerning the documents.”

Kujiyo searched her bag for a flashlight while talking and threw it to me. It should be useful in the tunnel.

In the end, she still had some salad left over on her plate. Kujiyo quickly left the table. There was still some of time before we had to go to class. However, she had always liked working alone, so I wasn’t extremely mindful about it.

“...It’s really rare, you eating breakfast with Elena.”

I wasn’t sure if it was just me, but I always felt that Yuki looked at me with a piercing gaze. Being stared at by such a gaze, I would still feel a bit flustered, even if I had done nothing wrong.

“No, actually, I just remembered that there were many files and documents stored inside that underground room. After I told her, she scolded me like usual. However, because I said that I would go retrieve it immediately, I seemed to have already received understanding.”

“O-oh, so it’s like that...Because of what happened last night, I thought that Ryu and Elena would definitely have a fight.”

“—Huh? Me?”

I shrugged, thinking she was joking. However, Yuki actually had a very serious expression.

“...Actually, what happened last night was actually a very big blow to me. I

didn't know that Ryu saw Elena in that way...It's obvious the person always next to Ryu is me..."

Yuki put her head down. She muttered in a barely audible voice to me.

...Eh, what did those words she just said mean? 「What happened last night」 should be me sexually harassing Kujiyo last night, right? However, this didn't have anything to do with 「It's obvious the person always next to Ryu is me.」

...Could Yuki be thinking that since we're always together, if I wanted to sexually harass someone, I should be doing it to her?

—No, that would be unthinkable. That pure Yuki would definitely not be one of those people who take pleasure in being sexually harassed.

...I'll first put aside the unclear significance of her words. Last night, Ryuji's sexual harassment could be considered a downright accident. In order not to make the same mistakes, it would be better to clearly explain it.

"...Um, Yuki. I already explained yesterday. Ryuji's confession to Kujiyo in the science classroom was all because of the side effects of."

"Side effect?"

"Yes. You know how my personality and Ryuji's are completely different, right?"

"Yes. Ryuji is a little more stupid."

"That's right, and what's even more annoying is that he's a super aggressive pervert. Kujiyo said it yesterday, 「Could it be that you have split personality and they become separated into their own bodies」. Actually, that's basically what happens. After activating Ryuichi and Ryuji, who have two completely different personalities appear. Ryuichi's personality is closer to mine. In other words, Ryuji and I have completely different ways of thinking, so I wouldn't want to be held accountable for his stupid actions."

"...Ok..."

"You can't accept it?"

"Yep, I can't accept it at all."

“I see...”

I tried very hard to explain, but it still didn't work...

“...Um, then just let me confirm something. Ryu, you don't plan to keep trying to get close to Elena, right?”

“That's right. Don't mention in the same sentence with that idiot.”

“Oh, so it's like this...Although I still can't fully accept it, I do feel a bit relieved.”

Seeing Yuki relieved and putting her hand on her chest, I could not help but smile.

“You're such a bizarre person. Why would you feel relieved?”

“Huh!?...T-that way this matter is all better!! It has nothing to do with Ryu!!”

“W-wouldn't it be better to say this matter only pertains to me?”

“So noisy!! Actually, I regard Elena as the opposite sex. If Ryu becomes competition, then I would feel very frustrated!!”

“Hm—As I thought, Yuki really isn't good at lying.”

“That's not true, and I'm telling the truth!”

“So, so, rather than treating him/her as the same 'sex', I'll treat him as having different 'last name'!”

“Then I'll treat her as someone with a different last name, instead of the opposite sex. ”

“Isn't that how it is for everyone normally?”

“Now that you say, you're right!...Ryuu-kun even though you can't see the characters, I'm amazed that you could figure out I was talking about 'gender' vs 'surname'.” ***

“I could guess anything you're thinking. I'm the one who you said is always with you when you said 「It's obviously the person who's always next to Ryu is me」

“C-can you stop repeating other people's embarrassing phrases!!”

Yuki blushed, and kept hitting my left shoulder.

“Really! Topics that make people embarrassed shall end here! —A-anyways, Ryu. What I wanted to tell you before was to at least eat some vegetables.”

She pointed at the very unbalanced breakfast in front of me. Yuki very stiffly changed the subject.

“I always thought that Ryu doesn’t eat enough vegetables.”

“Huh? No, no. Could it be that you check the food that I chose every time?”

I half-jokingly asked her, but she gaze was very serious.

“Of course I would look. I look at it very carefully every morning. So Ryu, you have to be constantly aware that your life is being monitored.”

“I-I always feel a little bit scared...”

“That’s right. How about I help you choose your meal next time? I’ll be your nutrient manager.”

“O-oh...”

Looking at Yuki’s plate that’s filled with vegetables, I couldn’t resist making an irritable sound.

“...If I left it to Yuki, what food would you chose for me.”

“Ah, that. First, it would be the red-bellied snake that makes people full of energy.”

“Red-bellied snake!? The buffet menu has that!?”

“There’s also live turtles.”

“There’s definitely no turtles on the menu, right!? I’m not lacking so much energy that I would need to eat this kind of thing, right!?”

“Right, it is because Ryu is a herbivore. A herbivore doesn’t eat vegetables is weird. It’s a fatal contradiction.”

“It is troubling that you described me that way.”

“So, in order to resolve this contradiction, it’s necessary to intake a sufficient amount of red-bellied snakes and live turtles. If we could stay alone in a small

room after you have eaten, then that would be even better."

“Why!? What would you do with the energetic me!?”

"Huh!? T-to...to wrestle?"

Yuki, who turned completely red, replied in shy whisper.

...That was unfortunate. I had basically no knowledge on wrestling, but do men and women really wrestle each other? Also, wrestling is quite exhausting, but do we really have to eat red-bellied snakes and live turtles?

My head was full of questions, but I just had a feeling that if we kept on talking about this topic, it would lead to a bad outcome, so I just faked a smile and moved on.

***Note: Gender and Last name are pronounced the same way and written similarly.

[illegible]

After I finished eating, Yuki and I separated. I returned to my room to retrieve the sword and my bag, then I set off towards the science room at the east branch of the premises. Because normally, nobody would go to the east side at this time, I thought that I would definitely be suspected if I was caught by a third year. I couldn't help sweating all over.

I tiptoed down the empty hallway, finally arriving safely in front of the science classroom. Fortunately, up until now, I didn't come across anyone. I immediately activated , sending the me who was holding the flashlight into the science classroom. The Ryuji, who was outside, rushed to back to class.

I entered the password on the control panel. I then entered the hole while turning on the flashlight. After getting used to it, I found the channel breezy and surprisingly comfortable.

Finally coming to the end of the secret passageway, I then pressed the same button as I had yesterday, which activated a mechanism to make the floor disappear. I then dropped down, but made sure that my heart was ready, so that I wouldn't drop the flashlight this time.

—But almost at the same time as the floor opened, I noticed something very

strange. The ceiling lights were somehow all on. Yesterday, when we left, we had already shut them off— —

“I’ve been waiting for you for a long time, Yagumo Ryu.”

The person who had gotten to the underground room before me said when I had just landed.

I instantly recognized voice, and went into battle mode.

“Kito, why are you here?”

“Heh, you seem to be very surprised. I didn’t wait here for nothing.”

Kito stood astride in the middle of the room, ignoring my question and sneered.

“If you were thinking of coming to investigate the data here, then it’s really a shame. Because this morning, the laptop and all of the information had already been confiscated.”

“What.....!?”

Looking around, the bookshelf had already been swept clean, and the laptop on the desk was gone.

This was too unlucky. Just because of this tiny difference, all the stuff had been taken away.

.....No. No matter what, this timing is way too coincidental. The morning right after we cracked the code, the third years immediately followed.

“..... Could you have deliberately let us go?”

“Oh~ your head works fast. That’s exactly it.”

Seeing Kito’s indifferent smile, I instantly understood everything.

“Then, basically, Kujiyo getting the information related to the sacred sword from the library were all just part of the third year’s trap.”

“You’re quite keen. You’re completely correct. However, this was originally only the librarian committee chairman’s idea. We had already noticed this laboratory before, but we couldn’t find the exact location. So, we advertised the rumor of a sacred sword and demonic blade. We then put the information into

the library's books, and waited for a kouhai that could solve the puzzle to appear."

After having said that, Kato raised his right hand, and pointed towards the direction of the science classroom.

"You guys didn't notice that there was a surveillance camera on the ceiling of the science room, right? It's been disguised as something like a fire alarm. If it isn't dismantled, it definitely won't be found. So, we heard everything that you guys talked about here last night, loud and clear."

"....."

We lost badly. When I heard Kujyo had went to the library to gather information, I should have immediately have raised my alertness level.

"..... Basically, you didn't continue chasing us last night because you wanted to let us go meet with Kujyo at the science room?"

"That's right, it's just as you said. ... Although I want to say that, it was really just a coincidence. The glass that you hit me with all pierced my wrist. It wasn't the right time to chase after you. Because I thought you guys would immediately go back to the dorms, I called it a day and went to the infirmary to pull out the glass."

While recalling the pain from last night, Kito used his left hand to hold the right hand exposed by his T-shirt. It seemed like there's no more injury now. The healthcare members probably used their abilities to cure it.

".....Uh, we troubled you on that."

"Rest assured. I definitely won't let you go for that."

He glanced at me without hesitation. I should quickly change the subject.

"Since there are security cameras in the science classroom, you guys noticed that Kujyo was sneaking in there a long time ago."

"Of course, Kujyo Elena could possibly help us decipher the code. So, we gave her freedom to do anything while monitoring from the side. Well, we just didn't expect too much."

"However, last night we successfully opened the entrance to the underground

room.”

“We were a little bit careless. When we found out about it, you guys were already heading back. Fortunately, you guys only took away a sword, so we immediately rushed here and took away all the data.”

“.....”

Once again, I greatly regretted that I didn’t bring out the documents. If I took it away yesterday, this would have preempted the third years.

“By the way, I can tell you one thing. The reason I was waiting here is because one of my companions overheard you guys’ conversation at the cafeteria. Why didn’t you find a private place to talk about something so important.”

“.....Um.”

Now that I thought about it, we were careless from the beginning of our operations yesterday. Originally, we wanted to begin before the third years, but we were just playing into their hands.

..... I always make this kind of stupid mistake, and yet I talk about beating the third years.....

“——Ok, spoilers end here. We should get to the main topic now.”

Kito said with an oppressive tone as he walked towards me. His height of one hundred and eighty meters paired with his body full of muscles. This kind of oppressive aura simply isn’t a joke.

“I don’t have to say more, do I. Your conduct yesterday clearly violated the rules. It must be punished.”

“Breaking the rules or whatever was just decided by the third years I bet.”

“Hmph, you have the nerve to say that when you snuck into the school at night.”

“I don’t want to be told that by the people who placed us under house arrest.”

“That’s true, but I must fulfill my duties as a disciplinary member. I also want to return the favor for what you did to my right hand last night.”

“..... Are you trying to make every effort to punish me?”

“That’s exactly right, or are you saying you want all the disciplinary members to beat you black and blue?”

“.....”

In this situation, I obviously didn’t have the guts to say 「This abuse is lynching, right?」. I should stop resisting. It would be better to give in obediently.

However, if it’s ends like this, why did we desperately try to run away.

“Looking at your expression, I’m guessing you’re not going to try and resist, right?”

“Of course not. How could I make such a suicidal act as to the disciplinary committee my enemy.”

“I see. It’s such a shame that you are so sensible.”

“Is that so?”

Does he really want to beat me up that badly.

“.....Anyways, Yagumo. Before I punish you, I need to ask a favor of you. I hope you can give me the sword that you got from the underground room.”

“.....Huh? The sword?”

“Yes. It’s like you guys said yesterday. That sword could be the key to finding the location of the sacred sword or demonic blade.”

“.....What if I say I don’t want to give it?”

“We obviously won’t make you give it to us for nothing. Last night you broke into the school and hindered the disciplinary committee’s duties. According to rules, you and Nanami Yuki are supposed to be punished for ten days. However, if you hand out the sword, I can cut it in half. Just five days is enough. Also, Kujiyo Elena is supposed to have three days of punishment, but I can lessen her’s it by one day. Just two days are enough.”

“.....”

The exchange that I was offered gave me a headache. All the information in the underground room was taken up. The only thing we have left that contains clues to the sacred sword and demonic blade is this sword. How could I give up

the sword just for the benefit of having my punishment halved.

Even though I said that, I definitely didn't want to stay in the punishment room for ten days based on the current situation. Also, looking at the tough measures the third years have been making in the past couple of months, they could find a suitable reason such as 「retrieving equipment that have been taken out without permission」 while we were imprisoned in the punishment to obtain the sword.

——And, I also want to try to prevent getting Yuki and Kujoyo thrown into the punishment room as well.

“..... Kito, how about this?”

After thinking about it, I gave him a proposal.

“After school, I'll have a duel with you.”

“——What! A duel!?”

“That's right. If I win, I would like you to forget our violation of the rules yesterday.”

Kito mockingly shrank his shoulders towards my proposal.

“Although I don't know how you came up with dueling, it does seem like a good idea. ——But, it would be good to hear beforehand. What happens if you lose?”

“For twenty days, starting today, I will stay in the punishment room. Of course, I will also hand in the sword from the underground room.”

“——Oh.”

Kito's expression changed.

“Don't underestimate the punishment room. If you lose, then you would be stuck in a pitch dark room that doesn't even have windows for twenty days. Towards the students who are put in there, nothing edible will be provided other than drinking water. Knowing this, can you easily say such a thing?”

“I'm not casually saying this. I said it because I have confidence that I can win.”

Even though I made this kind of bluff, I didn't have a plan. It was because even if I was to be locked inside such a punishment room, I have confidence in using

to escape the punishment room. Also, if I just made either me or Ryuji stay in the punishment room, then the discipline committee would definitely be unable to find out. If I disguise myself, I could definitely eat all the snacks that I wanted outside!

After I indifferently came up with my strategy, I continued speaking.

“I heard that people only need water to survive a month. Even if I’m under imprisonment for twenty days, I still shouldn’t die.”

“.....Hmph. I can only assume that your brain has problems.”

Holding his arm, Kito sneered with disdain. However, I couldn’t cower here.

“So, what’s it going to be? Are you going to accept these conditions?”

“Wait for a minute. This is indeed a fascinating proposal, but there is a bigger premise. Disciplinary committee members can’t turn a blind eye towards the violation of the school rules——”

“It wouldn’t be a problem if you won. Not only did you not let go of the rule breaker, but you also gave him double the punishment. Not only that, you can even get your hands on the sword. Or, are you scared of losing to me?”

“That’s obviously using provocative tactics on me.”

“Because of what happened yesterday, I guess you don’t find me very pleasing to the eye, right? The glass that pierced into your arm yesterday hurt badly, right?”

“Although it causes a lot of anger, those two things are completely different matters. I will not mix duty with our private matters.”

“.....”

Kito is actually such an exemplary person. I thought that if I put it this way, he would have definitely taken the bait.

If that was the case, then I would have to desperately gamble on this.

“Ok, I understand now. If you don’t accept this proposal, then I guess I’ll just have to destroy the sword immediately.”

After hearing what I said, Kito’s face contorted. It seemed like I hit a nerve.

“You know what I can do, right? Actually, the sword is in the classroom. So, if you refuse to fight me, I’ll have the other me, who’s in the classroom, immediately break the sword.”

“.....”

“I could use telepathic abilities with my other self. It would be better to say that my other self is completely ignoring class and keeping his eyes peeled for any new developments. Even if you want to retrieve it immediately, you definitely won’t make it in time.”

“.....Are you serious?”

“Of course.”

I looked back with a provocative gaze towards Kito, who towered above me. After a while, Kito pretendingly sighed and scratched his head.

“Ok, I get it. I’ll just accept your challenge.”

“That means you agree to have a duel with me, right?”

“How many times do you want me to say it, so annoying.”

Kito waved his hand like he was driving away flies.

“Oh, that’s right, Yagumo. You look like you haven’t dueled before. Did you know there are a few rules in the school lockdown game. The student council president should have already explained what would happen on April 28th.”

“.....Ah, I seem to remember something of the sort, but I’m not clear about the specific details anymore.”

“Firstly, you have to ask for a duel in advance. You can’t ambush. Secondly, without a particular reason, you cannot duel outside of the school campus.”

Kito started reciting the rules of dueling. I wasn’t sure if it was just me, but Kito seemed to have a smug look on his face.

“Thirdly, the duel must be under the supervision of the health committee chairman.”

“If the health committee chairman is there, then wounds could be treated immediately even if someone was seriously injured during the duel.”

“That’s right. However, if you accept treatment, then you’re basically admitting defeat.”

“I will keep that in mind.”

“Fourthly, battles will generally last until one side admits defeat or loses consciousness. However, if one side is seriously hurt, the supervisors will determine if there is any danger with continuing the fight. That would also immediately determine the winner.”

“I guess that’s to prevent people from battling to the death.”

“That’s right. There are some other rules, but only these four pertain to this duel. The rules would subtly change for each duel pertaining to the opponent. If you get the chance, ask someone else to explain to you. — —Also, let me handle the application for this duel.”

“That would really be appreciated.”

“Then I will confirm one more time. The results of this duel will determine whether you are pardoned or punished. Is there really no problem with this?”

“Of course not.”

After getting my confirmation, Kito took out his student handbook and briefly recorded what we talked about earlier.

「If Yagumo Ryu wins: he will be pardoned for all of his punishments.」

「If Yagumo Ryu loses: starting today, he will be locked up for twenty days and will give the sword he found in the basement to the third-years.」

“Let me say this beforehand. This time it’s a special case. Don’t think this will happen again.”

“Mhm, obviously there isn’t a problem with that, Kito. However, where you wrote 「if Yagumo Ryu wins」, could you also add 「Nanami Yuki and Kujiyo Elena’s punishment will also all be pardoned」?”

“.....Huh? I obviously can’t allow that. There was no such condition when we discussed earlier— —”

“I guess I’ll destroy the sword.”

“—Ok, fine. I got it. I really lost big on this one.”

"Thank you very much. I always knew Kito would be able to do it."

“Shut up, you low life pretending to be like other people who protect girls.”

“It’s not only to protect them because they’re girls, but also because they’re my friends.”

“Hmph, kill yourself.”

“How could you talk trash about me so frankly?”

“Ah, that’s right. Changing the subject, I have a couple things to add about the punishment room.”

“Right after you pretend like nothing happened and changed the subject!”

“I think you should know without me telling you. To Exceeds, the lock on doors is nothing other than a decoration. So, anyone who enters the punishment room will all receive an order to not escape the room with Kirihara’s .

“——Huh?”

“However, seeing the way you boasted of your amazingness, you definitely shouldn’t have considered anything cowardly like escaping.”

“.....T-that goes without saying. It’s really annoying. I definitely didn’t think of a strategy like going outside to eat snacks until I’m full.”

“I also think that way. You really have such a manly spirit. I’m really thankful for that. I’m really looking forward to our duel after school.”

As Kito said that, an evil smile appeared on his face.

[illegible]

“—So, that’s why I’m going to duel Kito.”

A period of time elapsed. It was now first period's break. I lifted , and I told Yuki and Kujyo, who were in the classroom, about the negotiations I had in the basement earlier.

“.....I can only say that you’re too hasty.”

Kujyo said coldly with a complex expression and her arms crossed.

“It really is commendable that you want to prevent having me thrown into the punishment room, but you have basically no chance of winning.”

“Nope, Elena. How dare you curb his enthusiasm in one of the few instances where Ryu has vigor? I support you, Ryu.”

“Seriously Nanami, you’re spoiling Yagumo too much.Having said that, I don’t detest reckless guys. Even though you’ll lose badly, good luck.”

In response to Kujiyo’s insincere support accompanied with a half-smile, I retorted like this.

“Heheh. It’s a pity, Kujiyo. I shouldn’t lose this match.”

“Oh? Could it be that you have some sort of countermeasure?”

“Ah. It’s just like you said. Yuki used on Kito’s right hand last night. So, immediately after the battle begins, I’ll let Yuki activate and throw large amounts of glass shards just like yesterday. I don’t even have to do anything and Kito will be unable to fight.”

This is the trump card that I’ll use in the duel with Kito. The sly Ryuji would never provoke in a situation that has no chance of winning.

On the other hand, Kujiyo frowned after hearing this countermeasure.

“That strategy is too petty.”

“However, we would definitely win.”

“You say it like this, but isn’t this completely relying on outside factors?”

“You can call it whatever you want. As long as we win, it wouldn’t matter.”

“.....Um——”

At this moment, Yuki suddenly interrupted with a very sorry appearance.”

“I’m sorry to tell you that ’s mark resets whenever I sleep..... So, if you want to use it on Kito again, I would have to touch him again.”

“.....Huh? Are you serious?”

“Mhm, completely. So, the strategy of using on Kito is completely unworkable.”

“.....”

This was an unexpected obstacle.

“.....Uh, then let’s look for opportunities of approaching Kito before school ends and think of whatever way we can touch him.....”

“Our opponent isn’t stupid. He will definitely be alert of Yuki who’s on your side. It’s probably very difficult to even approach him.”

“.....”

Kujyo’s remarks made me speechless. I was in a state of despair.

“Yagumo, don’t be so depressed. We’ll see you after you come out of the punishment room twenty days later.”

“You already determined that I’ll lose.”

“You don’t have any other battle plans, right? Or are you saying you’ll terminate the duel?”

Kujyo scornfully shrugged.

“I don’t really care much. I was already prepared to enter the punishment room.”

“——Hey, hey, Kujyo. You’re wrong about me. I definitely won’t run away.”

I declared to Kujyo, who didn’t have any faith in me.

“The me that took pride in avoiding unsure battles died because of Kuyjo’s words yesterday. Now take a good look at the reborn me”

“——Hmph. You can really talk. Judging by your incessant chatter, you must have thought of other strategies to defeat him, right?”

“Of course.”

“Interesting. If you can really defeat Kito, then I’ll give you a reward.”

Just as Kujyo said that sneering, the bell for the second class started ringing. The gigantic TV in front of the room started playing a recording. The class began.

We immediately returned to our seats and took out our math notebooks. Because there are surveillance cameras on top of the TV, it will catch everything

going on in the classroom and transfer it to the third years. If you weren't seriously studying, then you'll be taken to the punishment room by the disciplinary committee.

The ringing ended, and the teacher on the TV started lecturing.

.....Ok.

I'm already forced to a dead end. What should I do now?

I can't turn back having told them these things. I can't see any hope in defeating Kito. However, I don't want to be suspended for twenty days. Knowing this, I should have confirmed the effects of earlier.....

I had a sad expression as I was troubled with this. Although I still like math, this isn't the time to study.

[illegible]

After sixth period ended so did the school day. I carried the sword from last night and walked with Yuki and Kujiyo to the main entrance (the sheath made of rope, which held the sword, was all made for me by Yuki during breaks).

I couldn't believe how calm I was. I couldn't get it off my mind this morning. However, as it got closer to the duel time, I actually became more relaxed. I already gave up. I'll just let whatever happens happen!!

As we were walking on the small path that led westward, we went down a series of concrete stairs covered with lush green grass and arrived at a sand covered playground. There wasn't a single cloud in the sky. It looked like the duel wouldn't be cancelled due to rain.

When we arrived, Kito was already there, sitting. It seemed like he wanted to be prepared to duel at a moment's notice, so he did preparation exercises.

There was no one else around other than Kito. I couldn't help myself from taking a breath of relief. In order to have the supervisors gather before the battle begins, notices would always be posted at the main entrance beforehand.

After the school lockdown game started, there would be a lot people watching every single battle due how rare they were. However, because the third years were always the overwhelming winners, the number of students who came and

watched became less and less.

Moreover, this battle was completely unrelated to the school lockdown game. It was a battle between a B class and a C class. Only Kujiyo and Yuki were here. I'm really thankful for this because I was going to lose really badly.

“——Yo, Yagumo. You have to work hard today.”

I suddenly heard a voice behind me. I instinctively turned my head around. A beautiful girl dressed in white appeared before me. There were red lines on her skirt indicating that she was a third year.

Her waist length hair was tied up with bright red accessories, and the plumpness of her chest could match that of Yuki's. However, what was more striking was that she left her white cape, which was worn on top of her uniform, drooping on her shoulders. It was clear that she showed less skin than other girls, but this kind of drooping fashion was actually slightly more erotic.

Her name was Shiranui Himeka, a S class Exceed. She served as the health committee chairman, who is one of the Game Masters of the school lockdown game.

“Have we met before? I think I met you when you sent one of your classmates to the health center during Golden Week. However, you left without saying anything to me.”

“.....Yes, thank you very for taking care of him that time.”

“Shucks, it's just the health committee's responsibility. If I use my . Treating wounds only takes two seconds.”

Shiranui said confidently as her dark black hair swayed gracefully.

“As long as you have me supervising, you don't need to show any mercy for your opponent. Enjoy the battle to your heart's content.”

“.....Ok.”

I reluctantly answered as I walked towards center of the campus. I wasn't in the mood to chat with the Dominators at the time.

“——In that case, I'll go all out.”

I told myself as I activated .

Ryuji and I split, side by side carrying the sword in its scabbard. After activating , doesn't only make a copy of myself but also my clothes and accessories.

However, if this didn't happen, there would be a naked person every time we split. That would be a big problem.

By the way, the items added by wouldn't disappear even if I dropped it before I cancel the ability. For example, if I used , a \$10,000 bill would become two bills. That way you could buy things worth \$20,000. This ability was literally made for breaking the law.

"You seem to be ready."

Kito said to me as he got up after finishing his stretches. Ryuji and I simultaneously nodded our heads.

"Alright, then let's get started."

Kito shouted with a very imposing manner. A few seconds later, fireworks started, which meant the start of the battle.

The white smoke rose up extremely high, and the loud sounds of explosion resounded in the air.

Seconds later, Kito lowered his body and started to charge up. He probably wanted to make himself enormous like last night.

Ryuji and I took aim and sped towards him. As we ran towards the motionless Kito, we pulled out the sword. We were going to pierce him from the upper-right in one go.

The reason was simple for using quick attacks at the beginning of the battle. If someone wanted to beat Kito, their best chance would be before he became a giant.

—However, in reality, it wouldn't be as successful as I imagined it would be. Kito already saw through my intentions. He enlarged his right arm in an instant and swept horizontally with tremendous force. Ryuji and I were hit and sent flying backwards.

Fortunately, the attack earlier didn't do us much harm. It was probably

because it was a sudden counter-attack, so there wasn't much power put in.

We immediately adjusted our formation. Ryuji and I put a little more distance between us.

“——Kito. From what just happened, we can clearly see that you're ability has a huge weakness.”

While paying attention to Kito's movements, I said this, which made him shudder.

“It would be better to call it a limit rather than a weakness.”

“Limit? What do you mean?”

“Don't play dumb.”

As he said that, I reminisced about what happened last night. When we encountered Kito in the vicinity of the school campus, he only made his right arm enormous. There was no sign of him chasing us during the time he was making his whole body gigantic.

“You probably can't make your whole body gigantic in an instant. To achieve gigantism, it would take somewhere around ten seconds. During this time, you'll be completely vulnerable.”

After hearing me point out his weakness, Kito made a wry smile.

“How surprising. You deduced that just from our encounter yesterday.”

“I am very observant.”

“Hmph, but my right arm can instantly become gigantic.”

“That's true, but this is a lot easier to fight against compared to a complete giant.”

“So, you decided not to wait until I turn gigantic?”

“That's right, but it would be better to say that I took this opportunity to engage.”

While I was pretending to chat with Kito, Ryuji launched a surprise attack from behind.

“——Eat this!!”

However, Kito's enlarged his right foot and jumped away with an unbelievable amount of force from where he was.

“That's a pity. I saw your other self moving with my peripheral vision.”

“I knew from the beginning that trick wouldn't work. ——However, it could still be considered a small success since I know your feet can get bigger now as well.”

“While analyzing my ability, you're planning on slowly forcing me into a corner.”

“Do you think that's improper?”

“No, actually I think it's a great strategy.Anyways, have you heard any information about from other people?”

“What do you mean?”

“Stop playing dumb. When I activate , there's another effect. Do you know what it is?”

“.....”

I probably already guessed what Kito wanted to say. While and are completely different classes, there are some similarities.

——It's that 「you can add more of yourself」.

“To answer the question from earlier, it should be 「when you activate , anything you touch will also become huge」, right? Otherwise, your uniform would have been ripped into shreds when you turned gigantic last night.”

“You have very good observation skills. You can even deduce this when you use it.”

While talking, Kito put his hand down his jacket's front pocket, seemingly trying to pull something out.

“Actually before the battle, I picked up all the medium sized rocks around the area.”

“——Could it be you!”

“Ah, that’s exactly right.”

Kito held a small rock while making his right hand gigantic. During the moment I spaced out, he threw the rock in his hand, which was around thirty meters, towards Ryuji.

——That’s not right, it was no longer the size of a stone. It was a boulder.

“Eat a blow from my right fist as well!”

The moment he said that, Kito had already threw his giant fist at me.

The giant right fist came at me, and countless rocks flew towards Ryuji. I hesitated for a moment. I then finally canceled, which made me disappear.

After, my body suffered the impact of numerous rocks. The sharp stones pierced my skin all the way to the bones. My head started feeling a little dizzy.

“——You aren’t the only one who learnt from last night’s battle. As long as you cancel, you can avoid one of them from being attacked. So, if I want to attack you, I have target both of you at the same time for it to work.”

Kito proudly said to me, as I fell on the ground.

Although I avoided a fatal wound, both my elbows hurt so much that I couldn’t lift them up. Because I wanted to protect myself from the rocks, I got this wound instead. I questioned whether I should keep fighting.

“——AHHHHHH!!”

I shouted as I stubbornly got up. I finally stood up.

However, after I adjusted my posture, Kito had already turned into a giant.

“.....Ok. I’m completely ready now. Let’s start this battle again!”

Kito’s roaring voice came from above. He had already lifted his gigantic right foot to flatten me.

Predicting where he was going to land, I desperately tried to jump away from there. An unbelievably enormous shoe flattened where I just stood at.

The ground shook violently, the area rumbled, and sand flew everywhere. Because there was such a huge gap in strength, I was flabbergasted.

Now Kito's foot was the size of my whole body. If I was stepped on, it would completely KO me.

Cold sweat dripped from my forehead. Looking at the situation, there was no chance of winning.

——Then, I should take this opportunity to run away.

I put the sword back into its sheath and swiftly ran towards the school building. The sand obscured Kito's line of sight. There were a couple seconds that he couldn't find me.

“——Hey, wait Yagumo!! Where are you going !?”

“I'm sorry! I really have no chance of winning, so I'm running away!”

“You're giving up way too quickly!! Don't run away so openly!!”

“A great man once said that if the situation is too desperate, running away is the only logical way out!”

“That's Sun Tzu! Under the circumstances that you have no countermeasures, running away is really a good idea! However, I'm not going to let you get away!!”

Because I assumed Kito would shout angrily as he ran towards me, I hadn't thought he would just jump towards me. His body flew like a bullet and landed in the empty parking lot, easily getting ahead of me. Because of the huge impact, the asphalt surface cracked, and black debris flew everywhere.

However, I already knew that he would get to the school building before me. So, I activated , then Ryuji and I each ran in opposite directions.

“——!! What an annoying ability!!”

After Kito hesitated, he grabbed for me with both hands.

However, I immediately canceled and disappeared from his huge palms. In a hair's breadth, I once again used , and we once again went in opposite directions.

I wouldn't say anything about crossing swords, but I was super confident in my ability to run away!

I finally arrived at the wide open window that faced the corridor. This way I

could successfully escape into the school building. I could finally be at ease——.

Just as I was finally calming down, Kito used his giant right hand to get into the building by breaking the window next to me. Even though I barely managed to avoid his fist, the scattered sharp shards of glass still pierced my face and hands.

“.....Yo, Yagumo. We meet again.”

From the other side of the window, Kito stared at me with his giant eyes..

My heart was seized by fear, all I wanted to do was escape this place as soon as I could. However, my feet wouldn't move as if they were frozen in fear. Also, the passage leading into the school was completely blocked off by his giant arm..

“Did you think running into the school, would force me into returning to my normal size? That's really unfortunate. Even in my current state, I could still play hide and seek with you.”

“.....D-does the disciplinary committee randomly sabotage school buildings?”

“Don't worry. Even if the whole school was destroyed, we can restore everything by asking any member from beautification committee to fix it.”

“I see. That's true.”

“Even if it's me, destroying the school still distresses me. So how about it? Want to obediently come out?”

“.....I got it. I surrender——”

“You're not the type of person to say that.”

Kito sneered and clenched his left hand tightly. It seemed like he still wanted to punch the front of the school one more time.

This is the longest I can keep Kito's attention on me. After deciding this, I canceled and combined with Ryuji.

Actually, when Ryuichi was buying time, Ryuji had already entered the school building from another entrance.

“Yagumo!! Where did you go!!”

The howling of Kito came from the other side of the building. As if the sound of his roar was chasing me, I quickly ran up the stairs.

As I was running up the stairs, I heard the sound of shattering come from all of the windows in the school building. It seemed like he started from the first floor and didn't miss a single window. What a scary thought.

"I found you!!"

I heard Kito's yell, then the window in front of me broke. The brutal punch of the giant was coming towards me.

The front of my body suffered the blow from the huge fist. I was sent flying backwards, down the stairs.

"Hahahahahahaha!! At this time, there's no one left in the building!!!! It'll be easy as pie for me to find you, no matter how much you run around!! "

Kito shouted with a grim smile.

On the other hand, I, who was injured in an instant, laid on the hallway of the third floor. I checked how badly I got hurt.

Being hit by the huge fist, made my face and solar plexus ache endlessly. Not only that, the shards of glass that flew towards me caused me to become covered in blood. When I fell downstairs, I severely injured my back and waist. Of course, being hit by rocks on both arms didn't help either. If I was in an RPG right now, my HP would be in the single digits. I have long passed the yellow bar. I would already be in the red bar now.

——But, I definitely won't give up!!

I activated lying down. After, I appeared within a three meter range, which was in the hallway of the fourth floor. I then deactivated my ability, and created another self in the three meter range once again.

Although I nearly died, I finally succeeded in reaching the roof. Then again, it would have been better if I did this from the start.....

Although the numerous wounds crippled my body, I still desperately stood up even though I could barely walk.

I dragged my leg to the edge of the roof. The fireworks used for signaling the start of the match was carelessly put there. It seemed like I could use it to attack.

"Hahaha, you're finally willing to come out of the school."

Just as I reached the edge of the roof, Kito met my eyes. His forehead was around the size of the roof. Only after standing at such a high place did I personally feel how massive my upperclassman had grown.

“So, what do you want to do? If you jump from there, you might be able to hit my head with your sword?”

It might have been because he hit the front of my body that made him seem very happy, or it might be from seeing my crippled body, which made him already convinced of his victory.

“.....You’re right. As a last prank, to risk my life just to hit you doesn’t sound like a bad idea.”

As I said that, I canceled , which made the Ryuji in the hallway of the fourth floor disappear.

——This was my last chance. If this attack fails, the only place I’ll be going to is the punishment room. Moreover, the sword I got from the basement would be taken away.

I continued onward without considering the state I was in, I grabbed the railing and activated .

After, my consciousness moved above Kito’s head. Although my view didn’t change much, being in the air made the scenery under my feet completely different.

However, the biggest difference was when I appeared above his head, Kito was overshadowed by an enormous shadow.

“——What!?”

Kito looked up, shocked, with eyes wide open. No wonder. It was because a huge school appeared in the sky.

——When I thought of this strategy, I saw Kito activating to make the rocks in his hand become boulders. At that moment, a question came to mind. 「When I activate to double, is there really no limit in size?」

Of course, I didn’t think it was true at the beginning. However, with Kito’s size right now, there was no other way than making something larger than he is to

flatten him.

Although it was a stupid idea, it was worth a try. So, even if I needed to drag myself, I had to make it to the roof. Finally, I held the railing and activated while imagining an identical version of the school in the sky.

Although it was a desperate gamble, the result was a pretty successful copy of the entire school. Also, in order to prevent hitting the original school building, I purposely held the railing of school, letting it be completely directed downwards.

“— —Take this!!”

I yelled as the duplicate school fell down altogether. Although I really wanted to go to the roof where Ryuji was at, the copied school would also disappear if I deactivated . So, my only choice was to fall down with the building (having said that, actually, Yuki could help deal with it by using .

When the duplicate school fell down, it still hit the original building. A part of the broken sections fell onto Kito’s colossal body.

Although Kito’s current height and the height of the school were around the same, it was still an overwhelming unfavorable in terms of width and depth. It was like the difference between a person and a truck. That’s to say, his current situation was like walking on the street and suddenly getting hit by a truck from the side. But, this wasn’t from the side. It was from the above.

So, Kito was helpless against the school building.

“Guwahhhhhhh!!”

He looked completely different from his satisfied expression earlier. Kito tried to catch the building with his hand, yelling a savage cry.

But, sure enough, Kito’s strength couldn’t support the whole school. Being unable to support it, he lost his balance and was overpowered by the school.

Kito’s feet were gradually pushed backwards, which uprooted various plants. Also, the sports department’s gym that was next to the sports field was crushed into ruins by Kito’s back. It was literally like the end the world.

On the other hand, I, who didn’t have a parachute, jumped from the rooftop and was stopped mid fall by an invisible force, arriving next to Yuki. I landed

safely thanks to her, Yuki, my soul mate.

Finally, a great roar came from the school. Kito was completely buried under the school, lying there motionless.

The school dormitory that smashed into Kito shattered even more after it was slammed into the ground. Fragments of concrete mixed with the sand from the sports field. All kinds of dust flew into the air.

However, it was too early to relax. I was stopped by the sound of an avalanche, then I walked towards Kito. If the blow earlier didn't get rid of him, I should take care of him right now, before he can get back up.

I walked to where Kito was. I found out that even though he was being pressed down by a lot of rubble, he still didn't faint and was trying hard to get out.

So, I tried climbing his tree trunk-like neck and drew my sword while standing on his collarbone.

"Kito, please surrender immediately. Even if we take into account our size difference, I'm pretty confident that I can still cut your carotid artery. ."

Kito could feel the edge of the sword on his neck and made a face of disgust. He obediently stopped resisting.

"The battle has been decided! The victor: Yagumo Ryu!"

Then, Shiranui, who came out of nowhere and now stood beside me, declared the end of the battle.